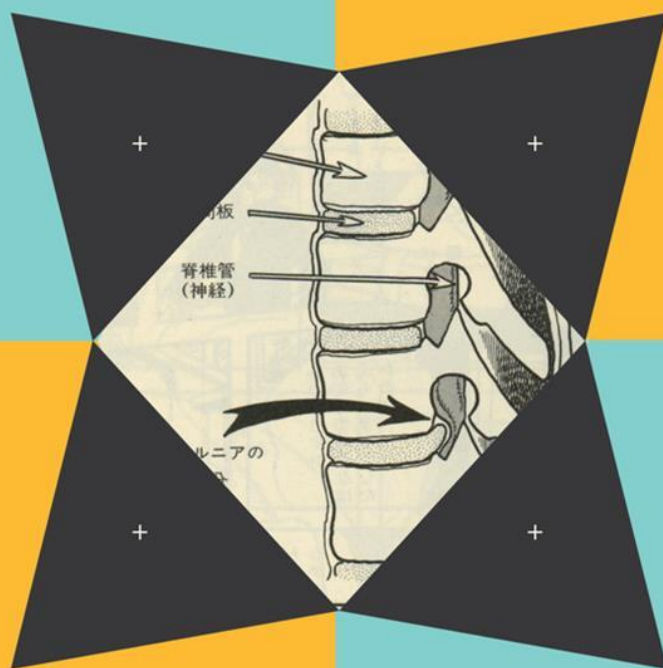




Black

Jack



Osamu

Tezuka

VOLUME NO. 11

Production—Glen Isip
Maya Rosewood
Christine Lee

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Black Jack

Volume 11

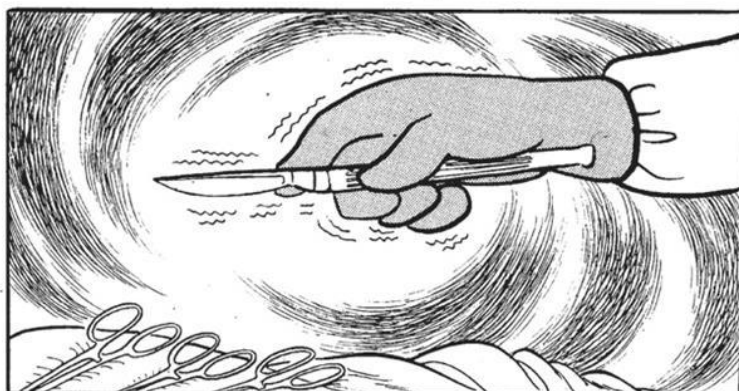
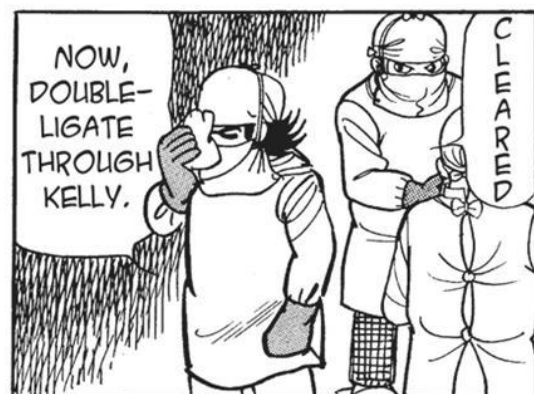
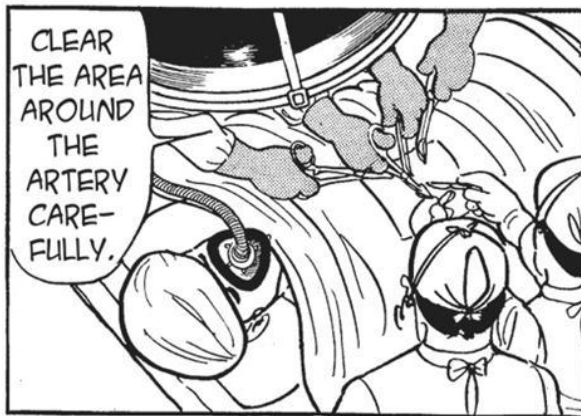
Osamu Tezuka

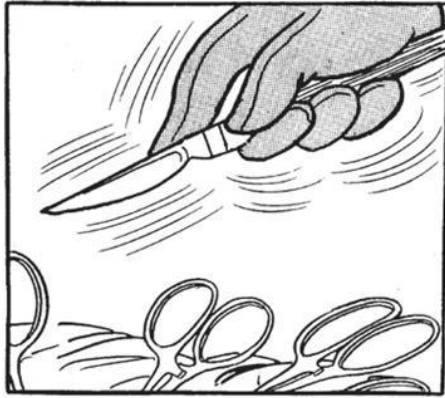
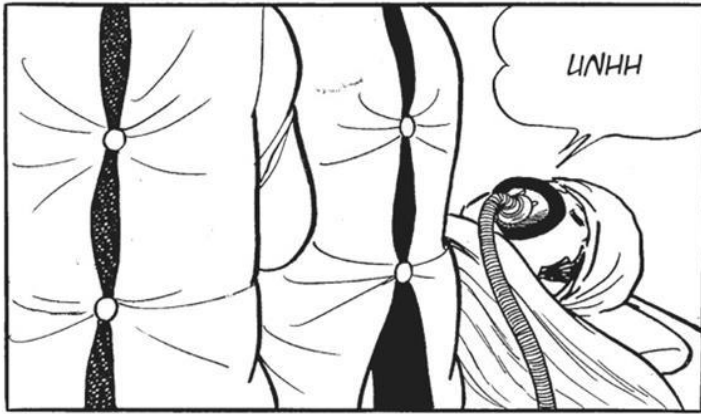


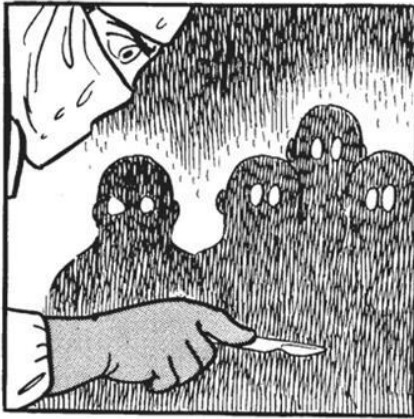
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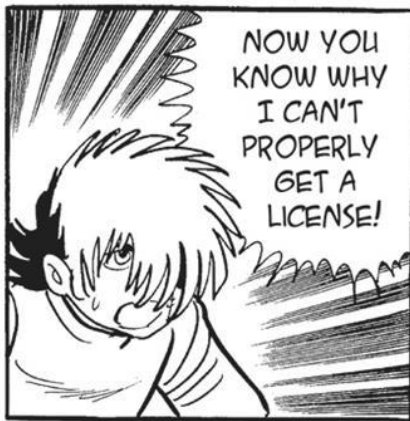
SPASM



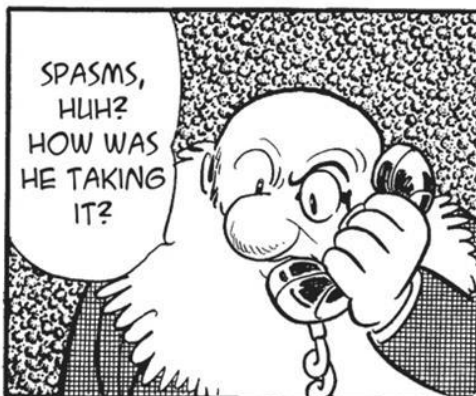
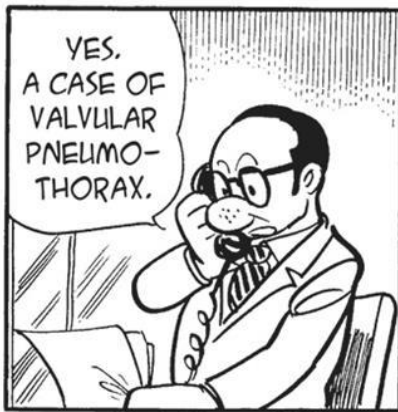


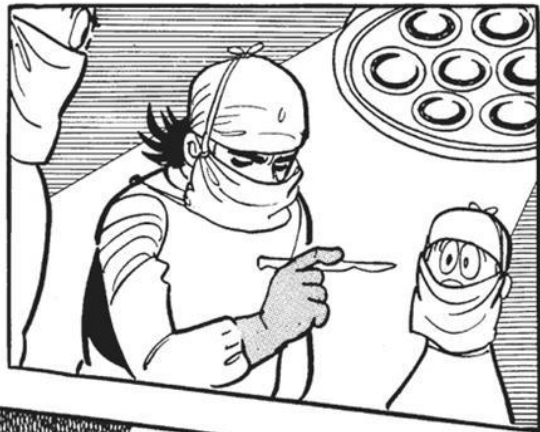
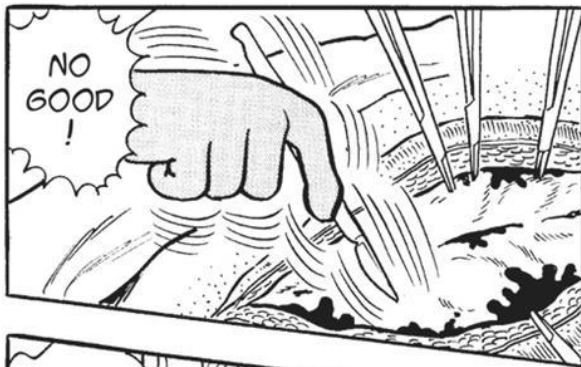


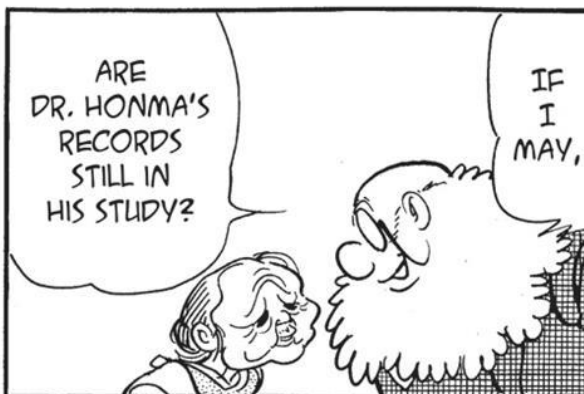
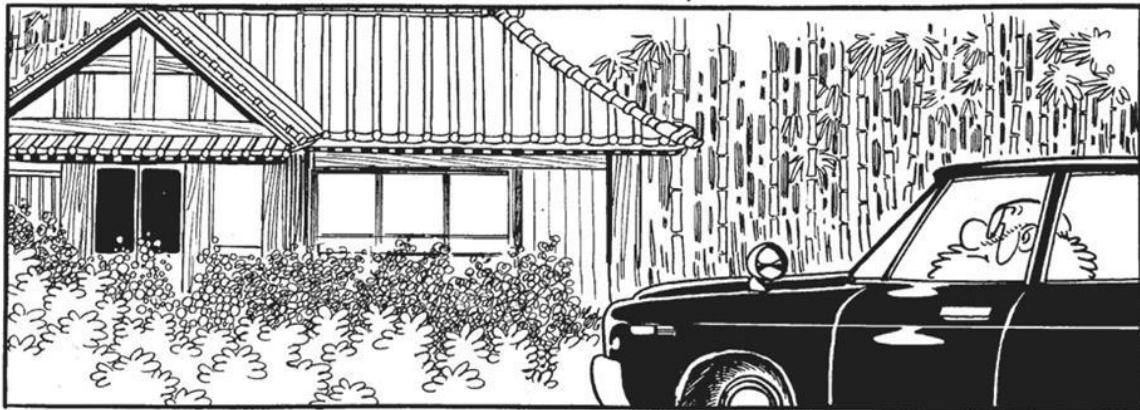


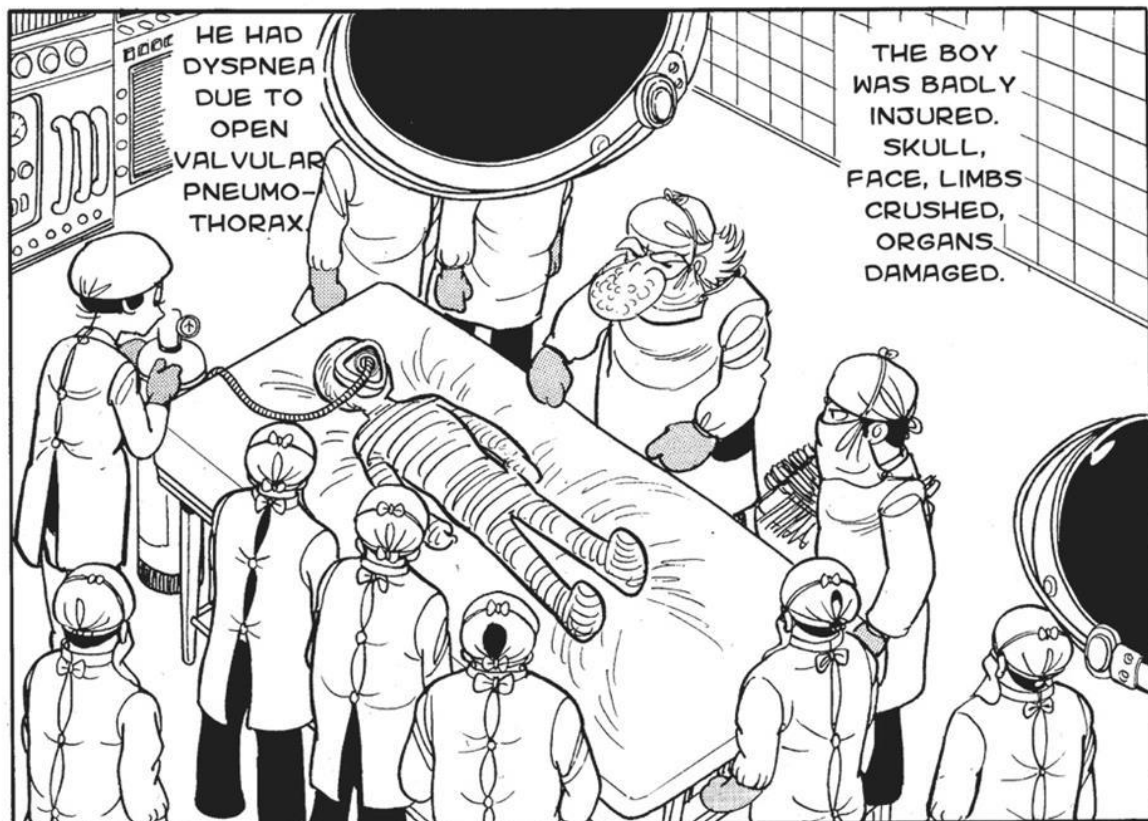
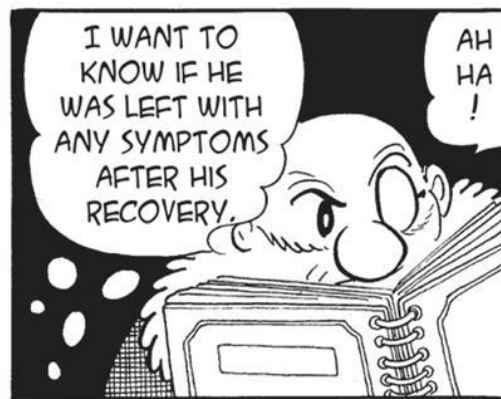
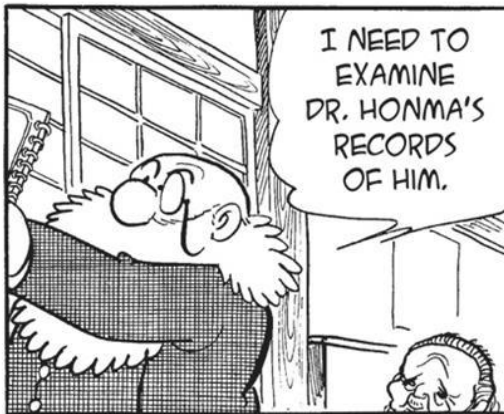






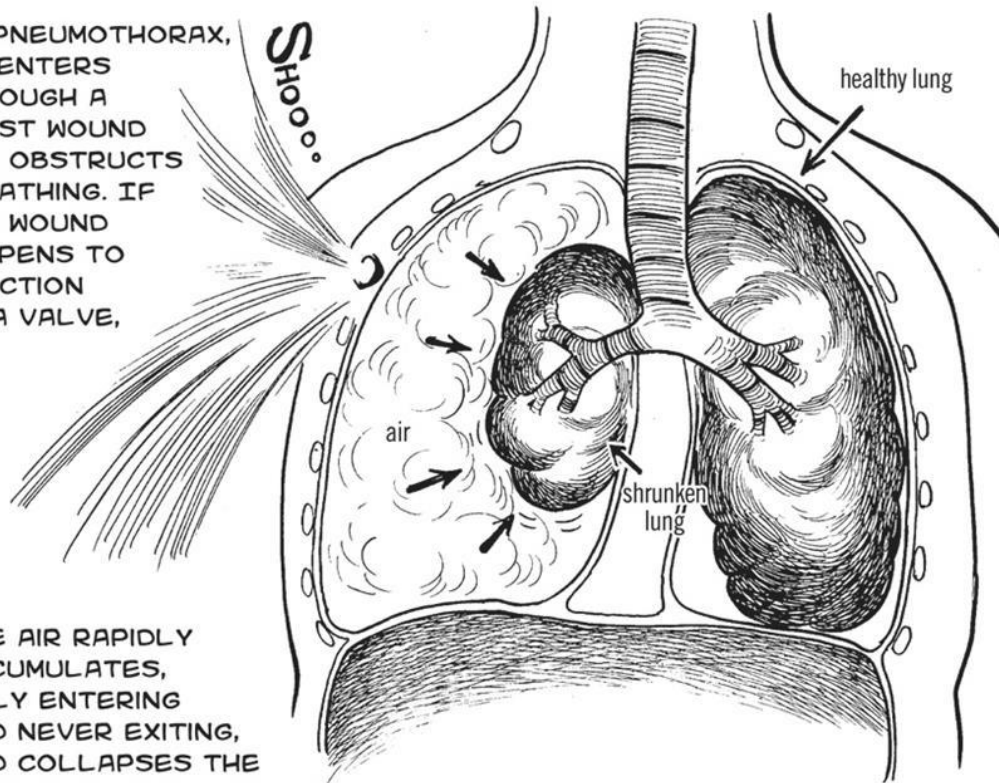






IN PNEUMOTHORAX,
AIR ENTERS
THROUGH A
CHEST WOUND
AND OBSTRUCTS
BREATHING. IF
THE WOUND
HAPPENS TO
FUNCTION
AS A VALVE,

THE AIR RAPIDLY
ACCUMULATES,
ONLY ENTERING
AND NEVER EXITING,
AND COLLAPSES THE
LUNG WITH GREAT FORCE.
UNABLE TO BREATHE,
THE PATIENT SUFFERS.

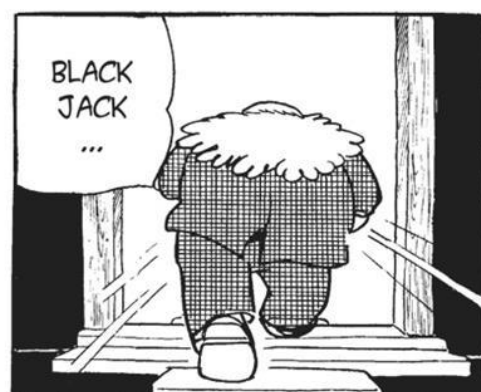
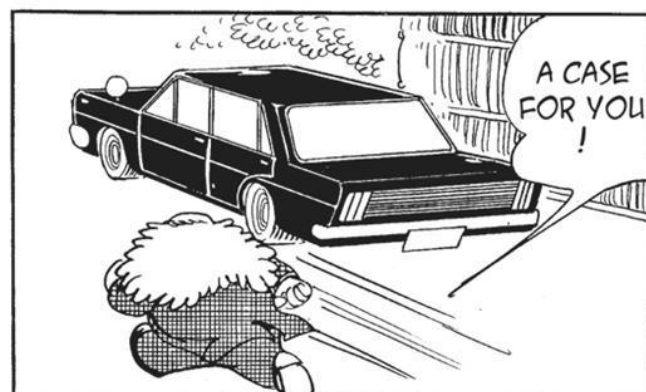
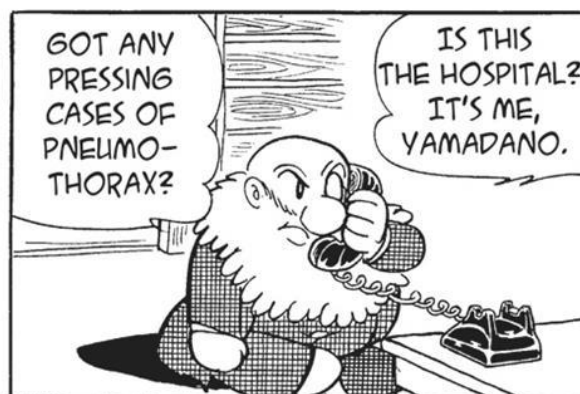


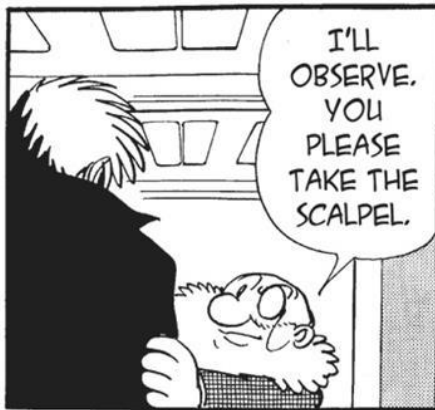
AND
SINCE
THEN,
OPERATING
ON A LIKE
CASE
BROUGHT
BACK THE
AGONY,

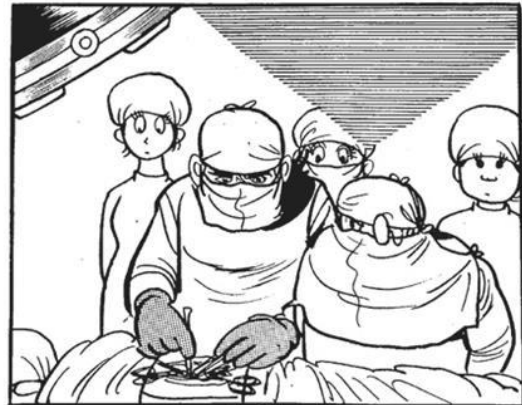
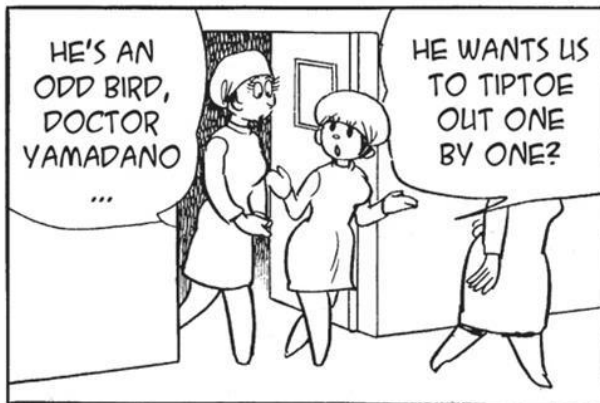
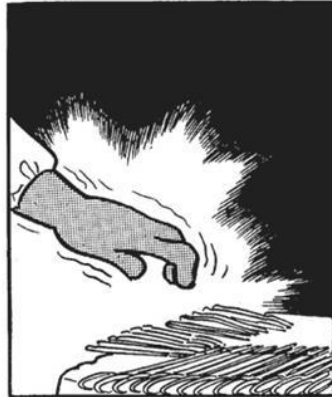
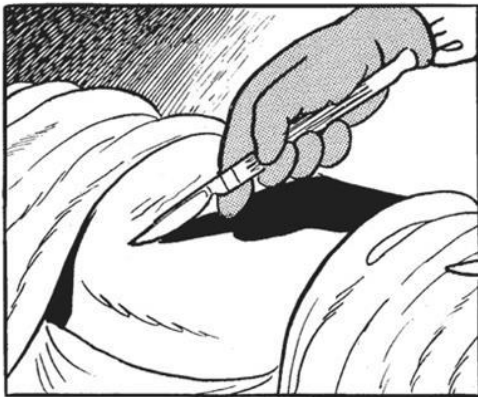
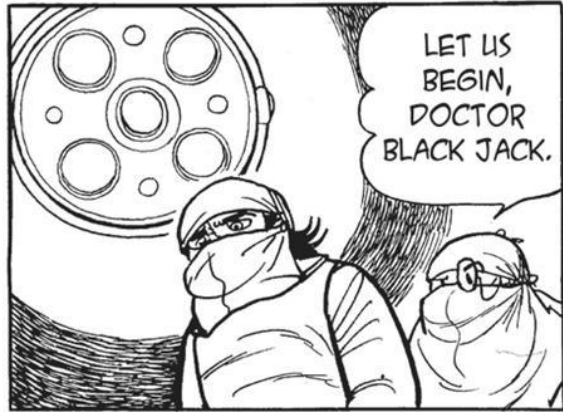
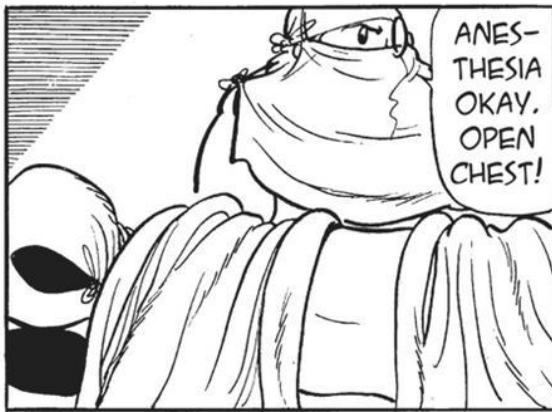


I SEE...
SO HE'D
EXPERIENCED
DEATH-LIKE
AGONY FROM
PNEUMOTHORAX.

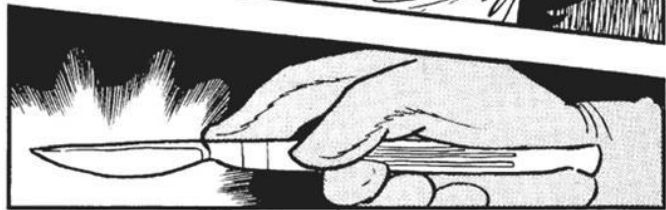
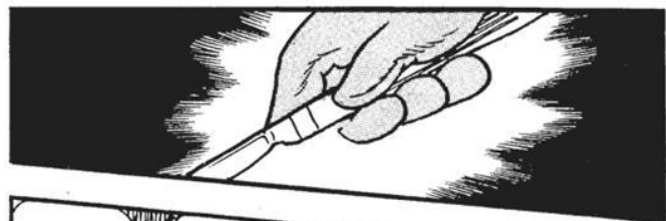






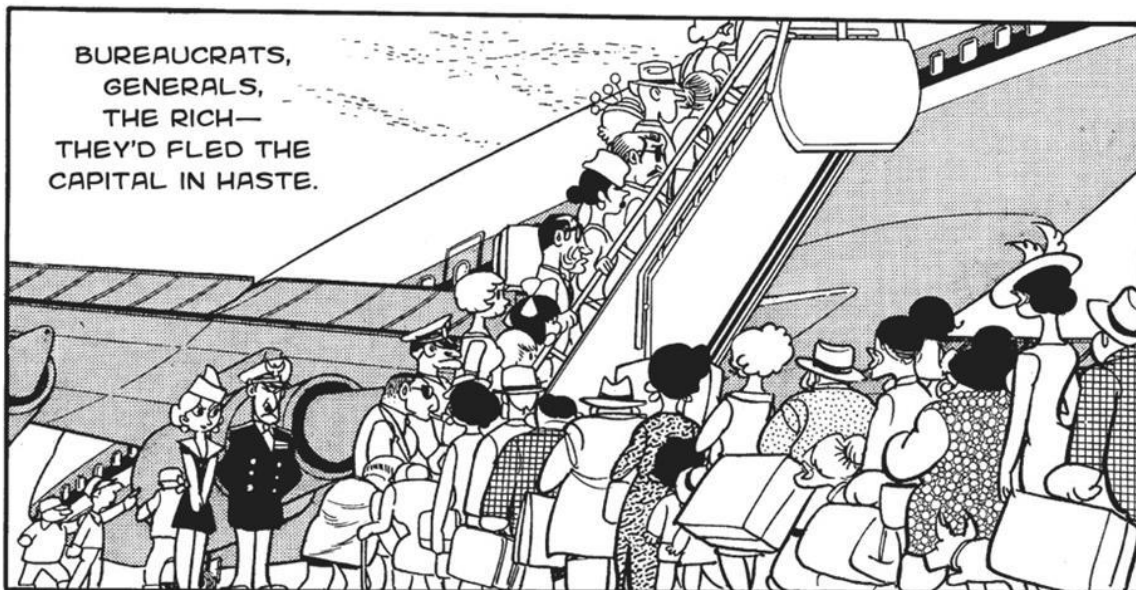
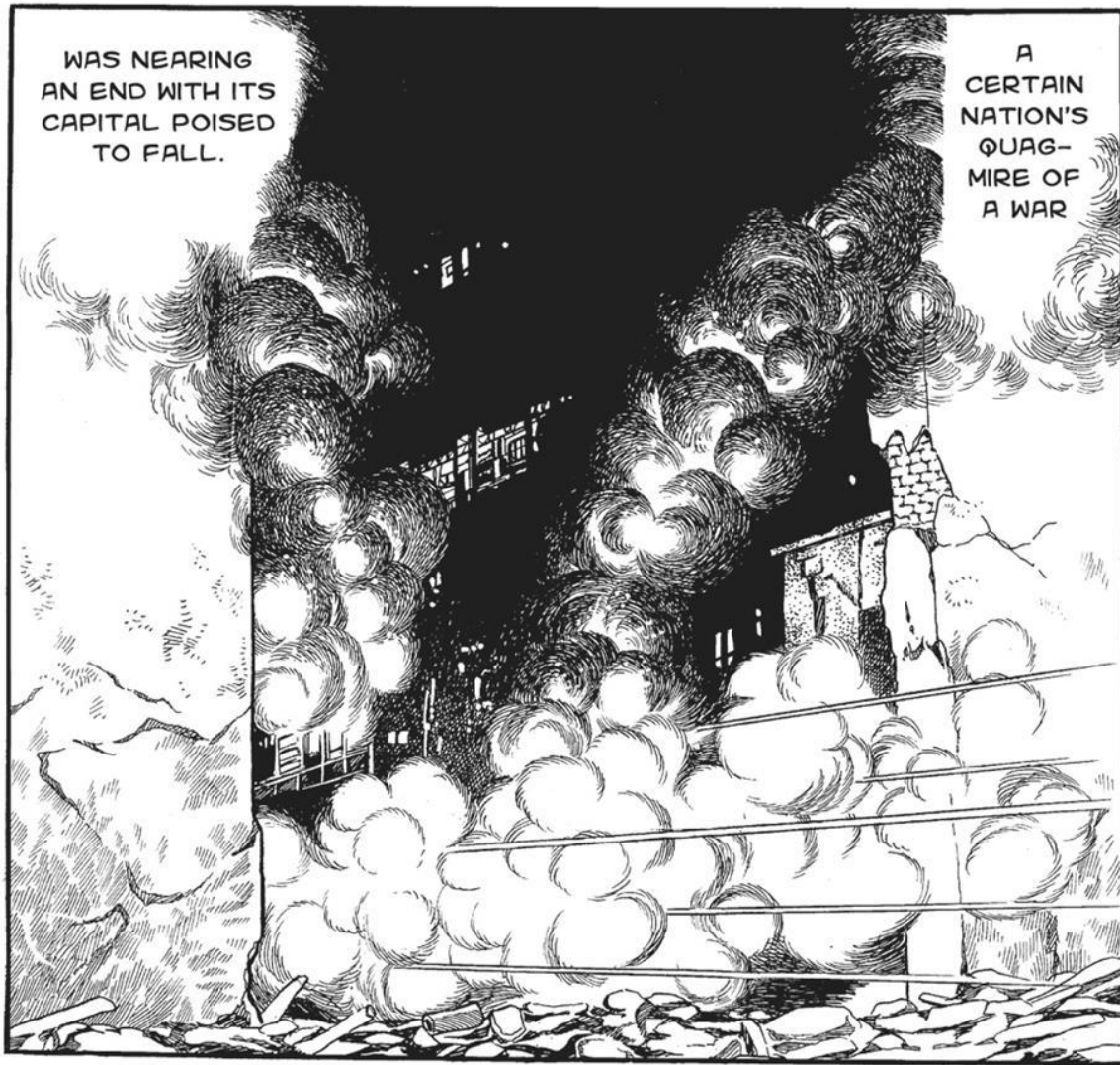


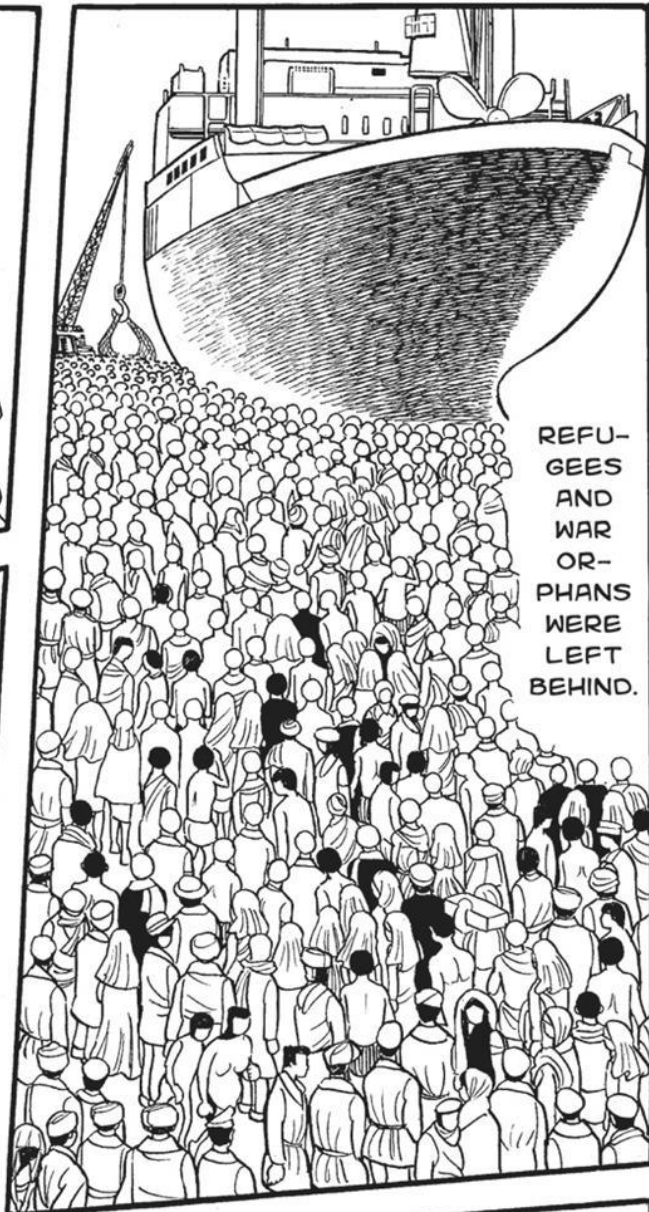
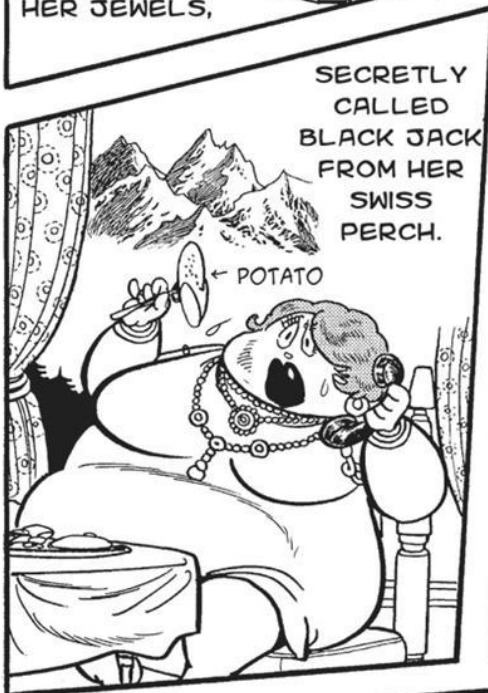
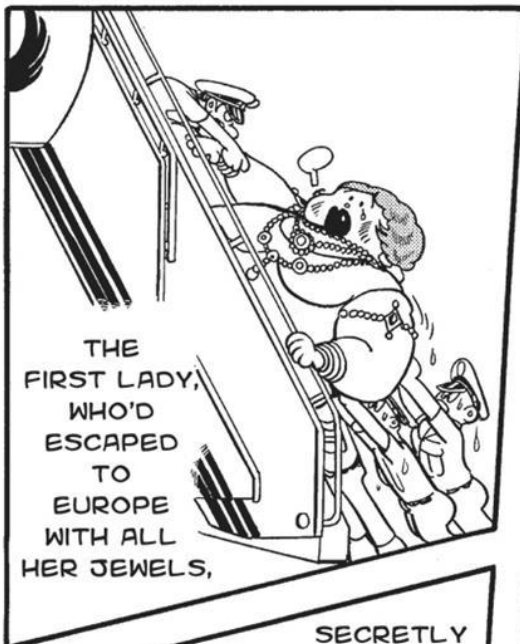


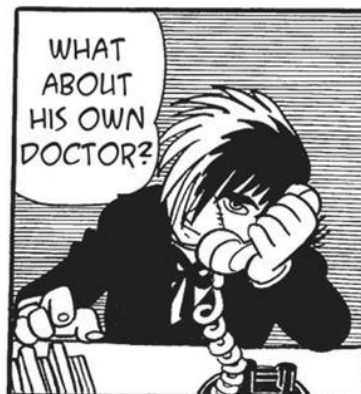


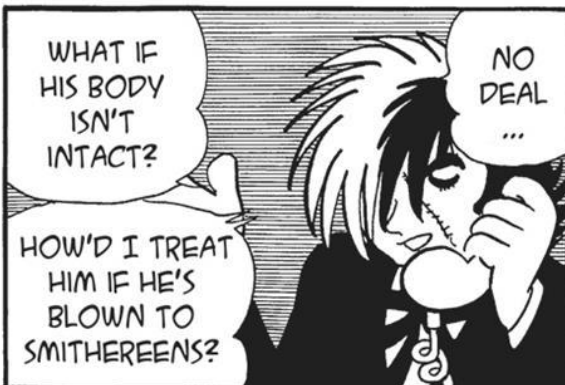
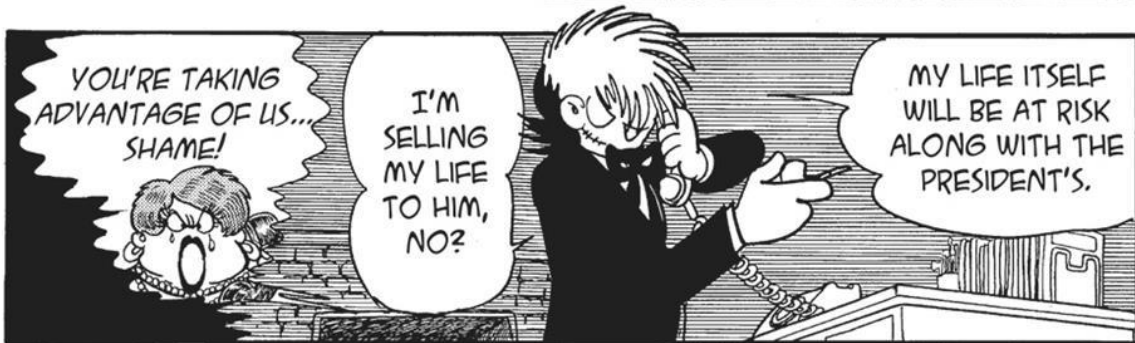
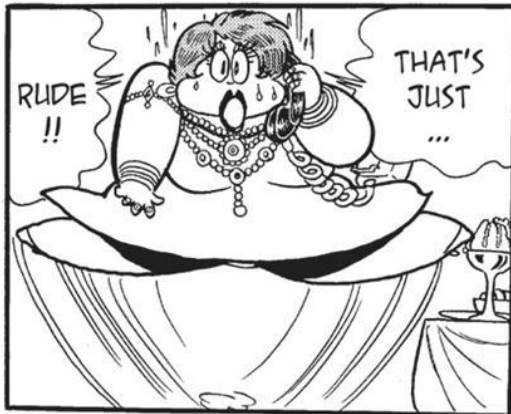


SMITHEREENS









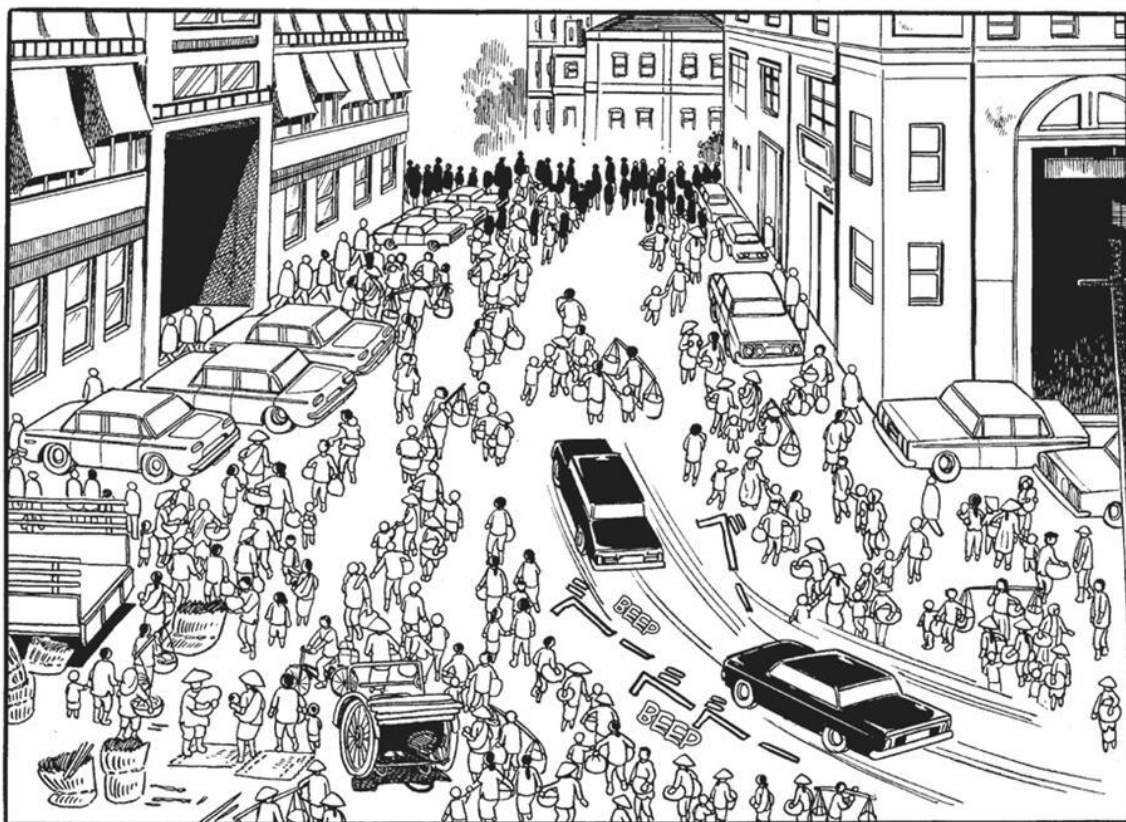


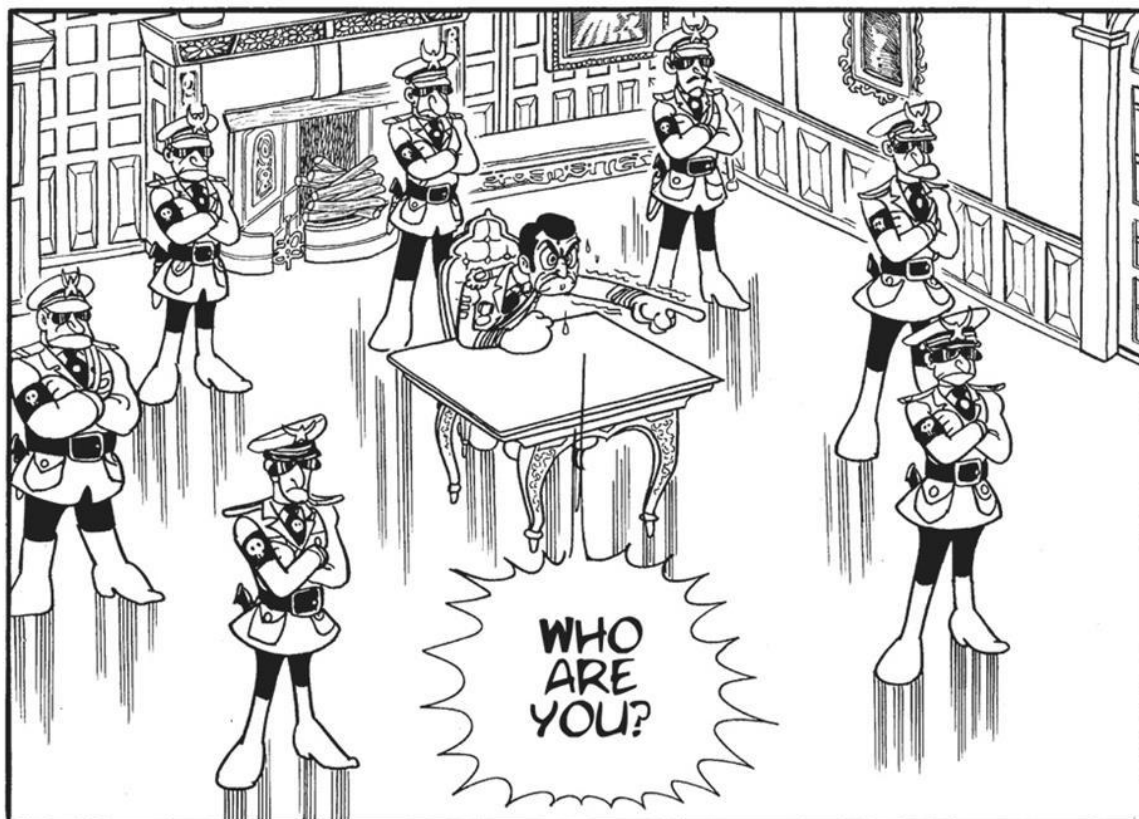
NOW
QUICK,
GO
TO
HIM!

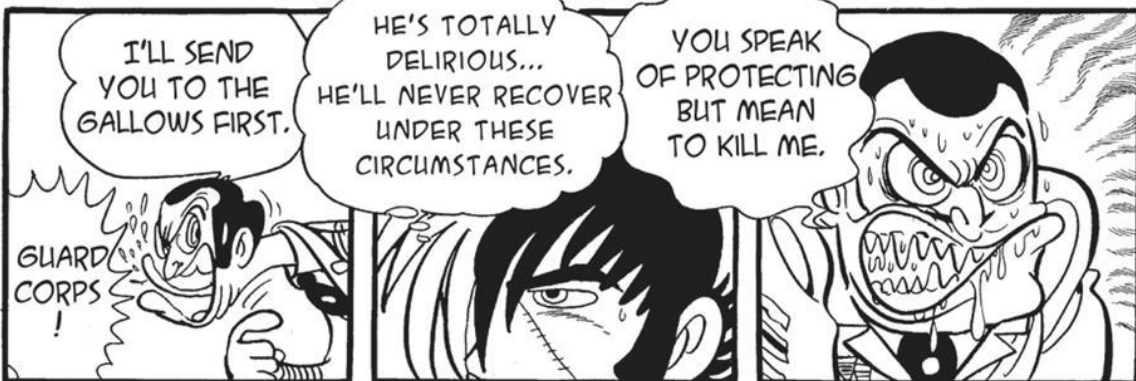
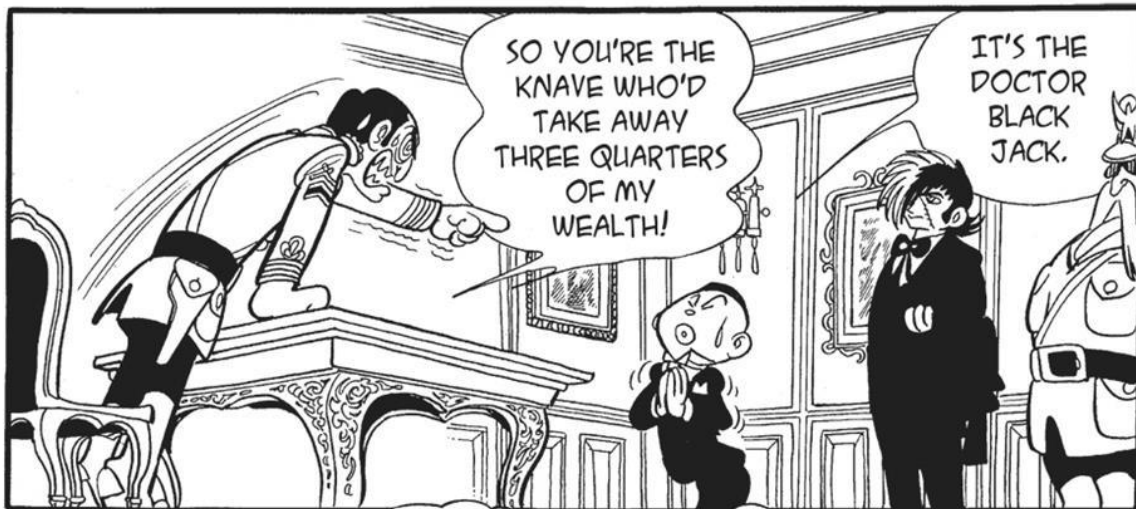
FINE, FINE!
AS LONG AS
HE'S NOT IN
SMITHEREENS!

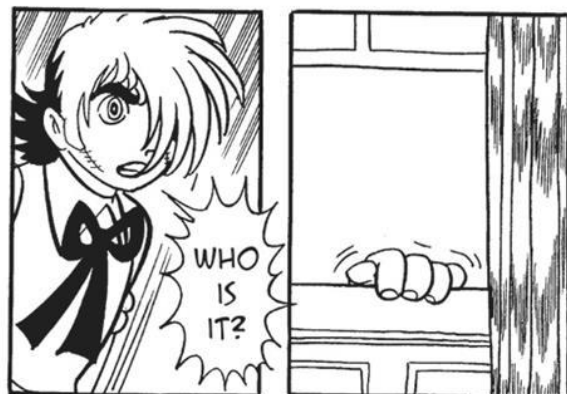
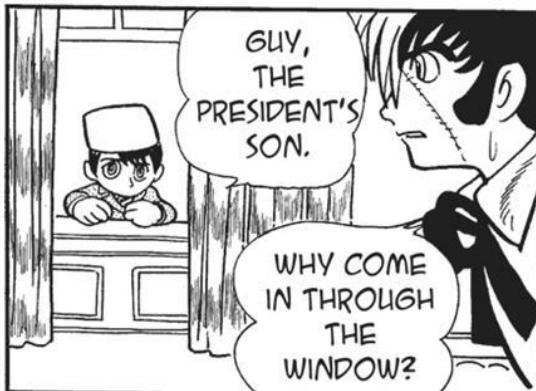
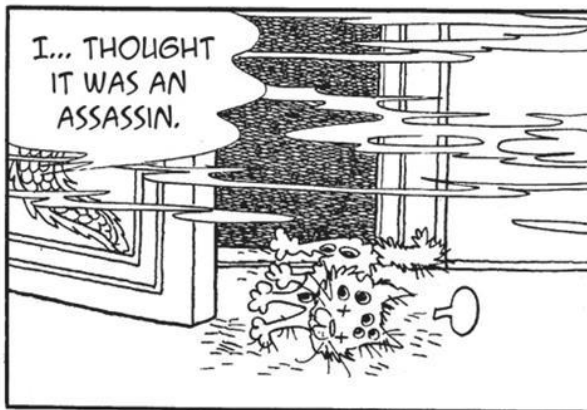


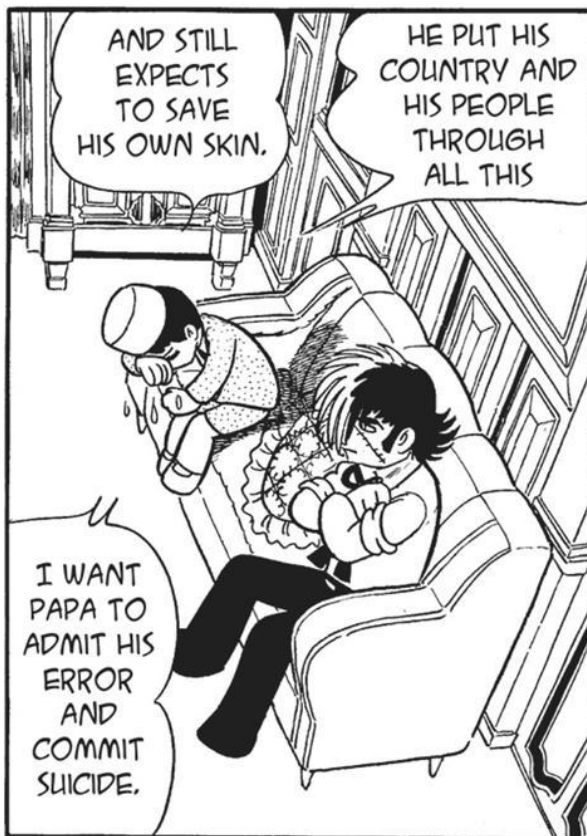
THROUGH A
SWISS BANK,
IN CASH.

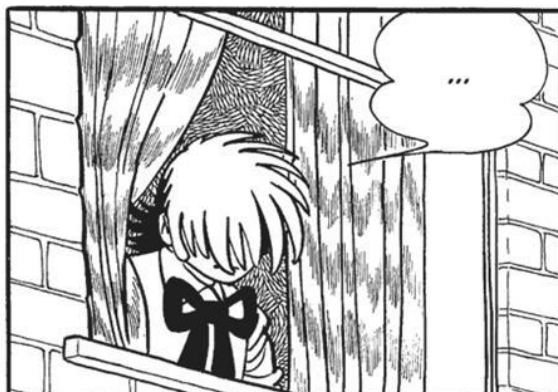
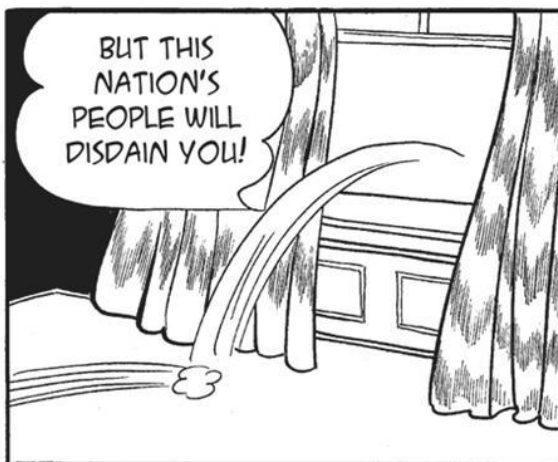




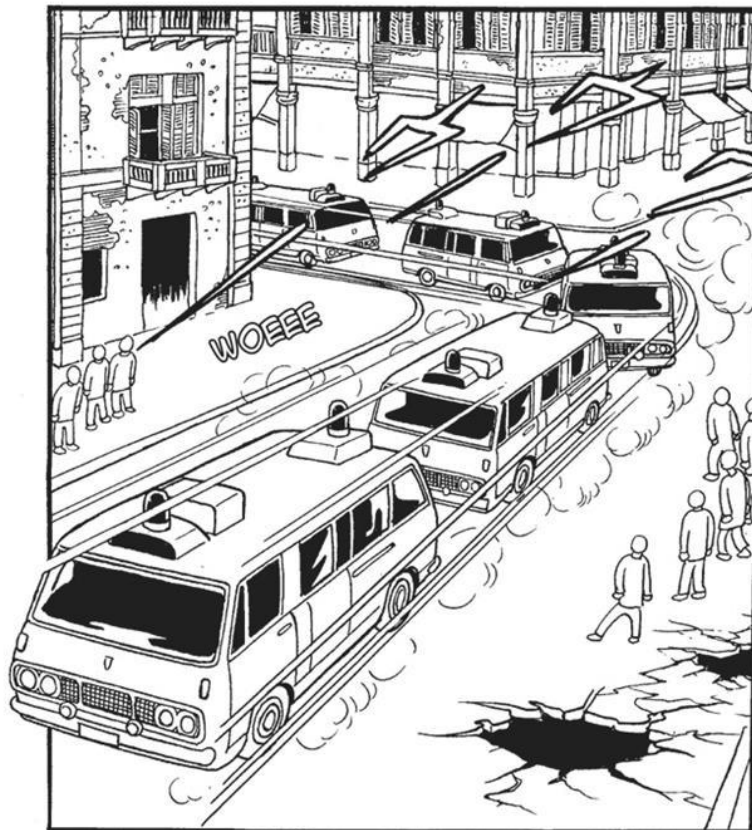


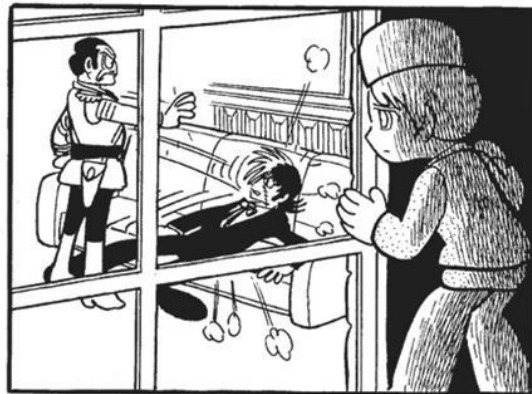
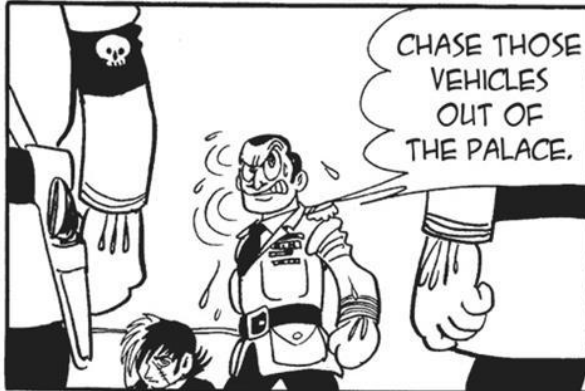
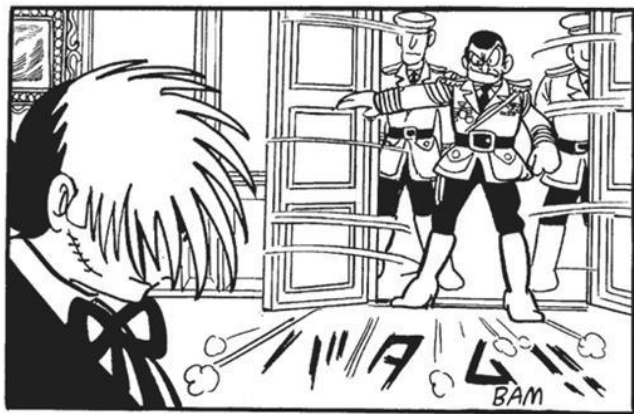


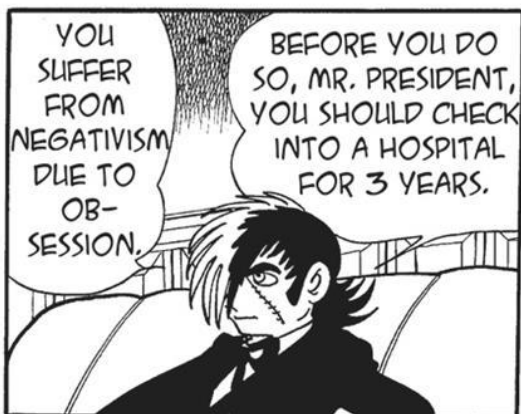


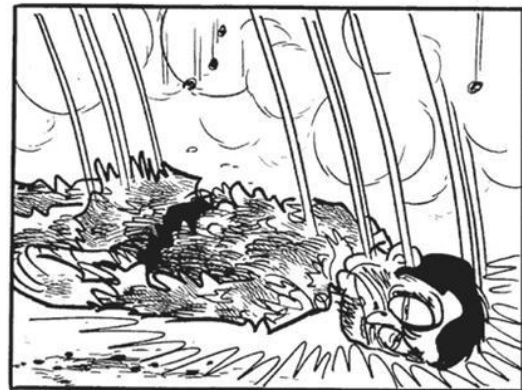
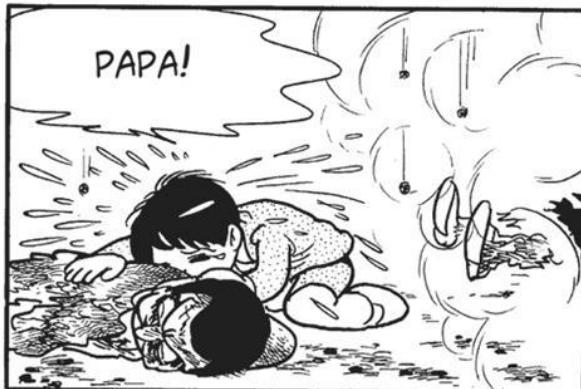


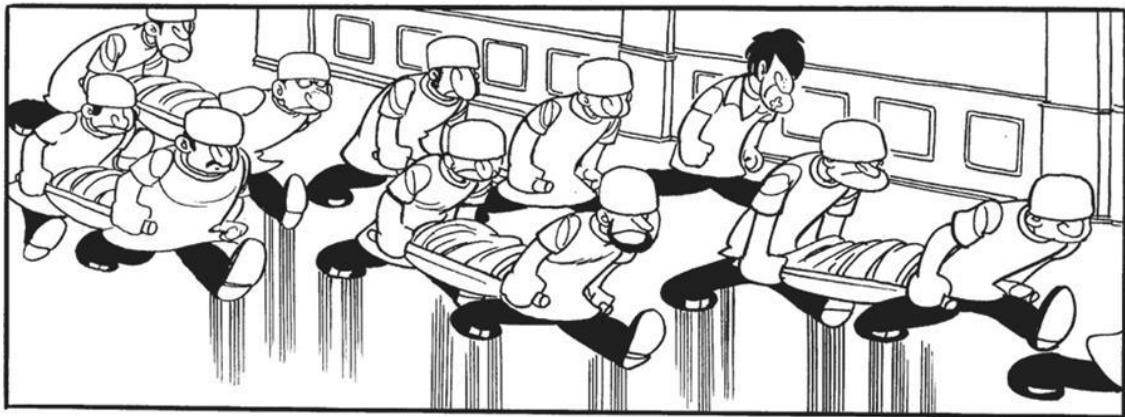


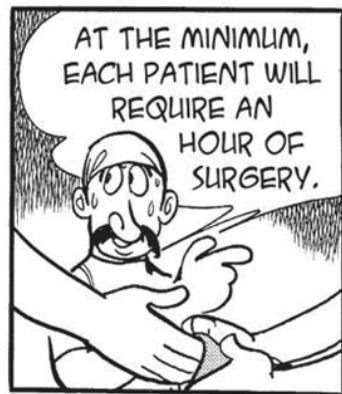
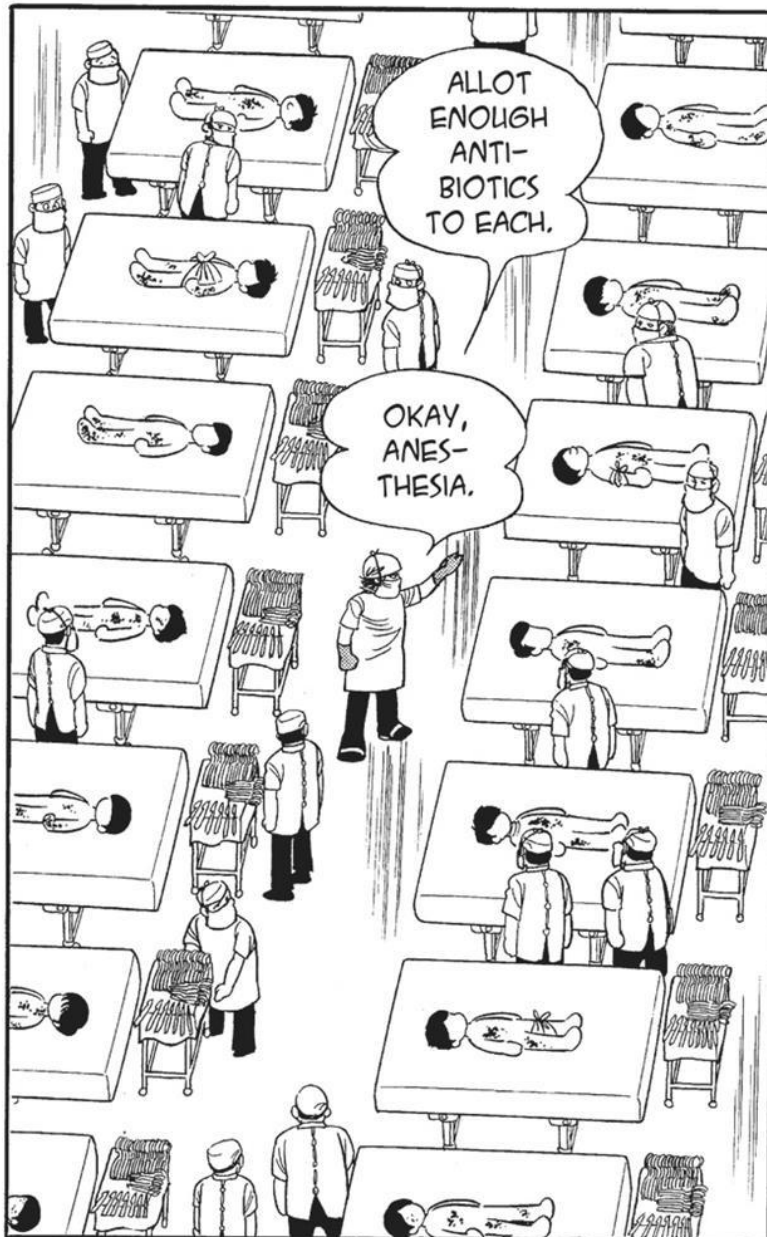
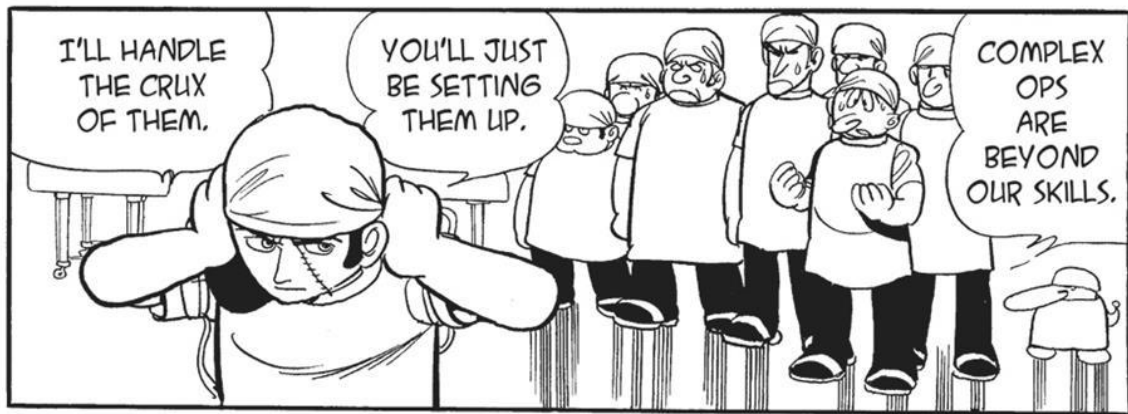




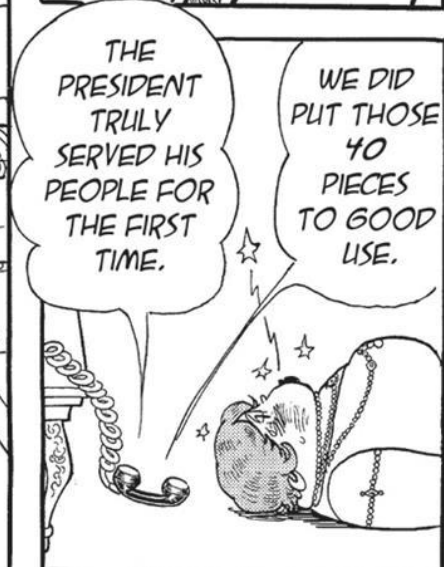
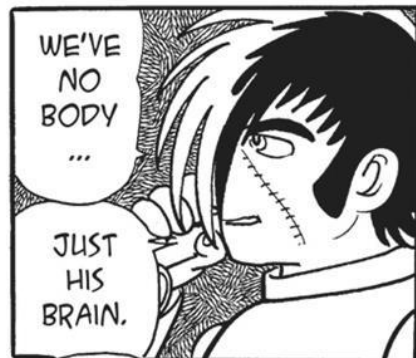
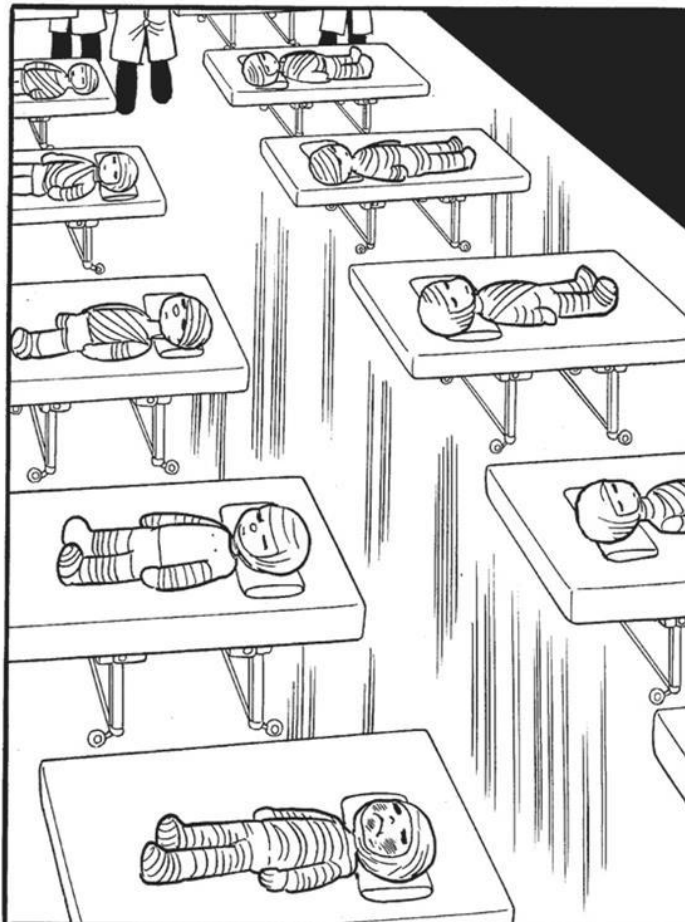




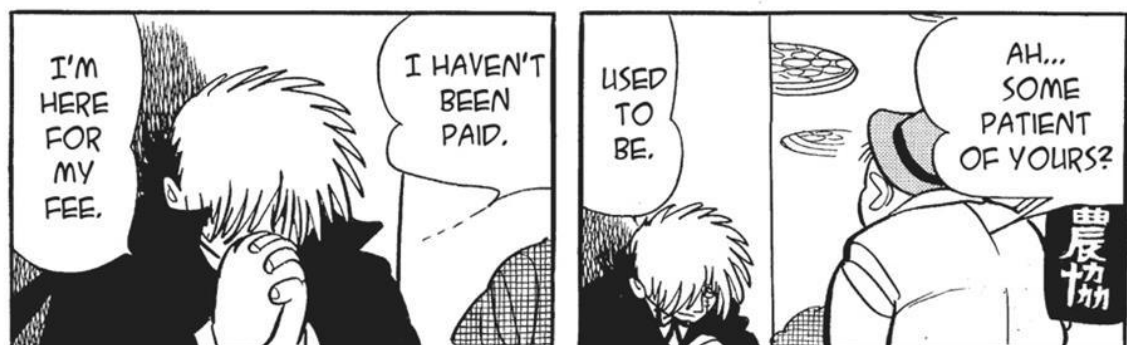
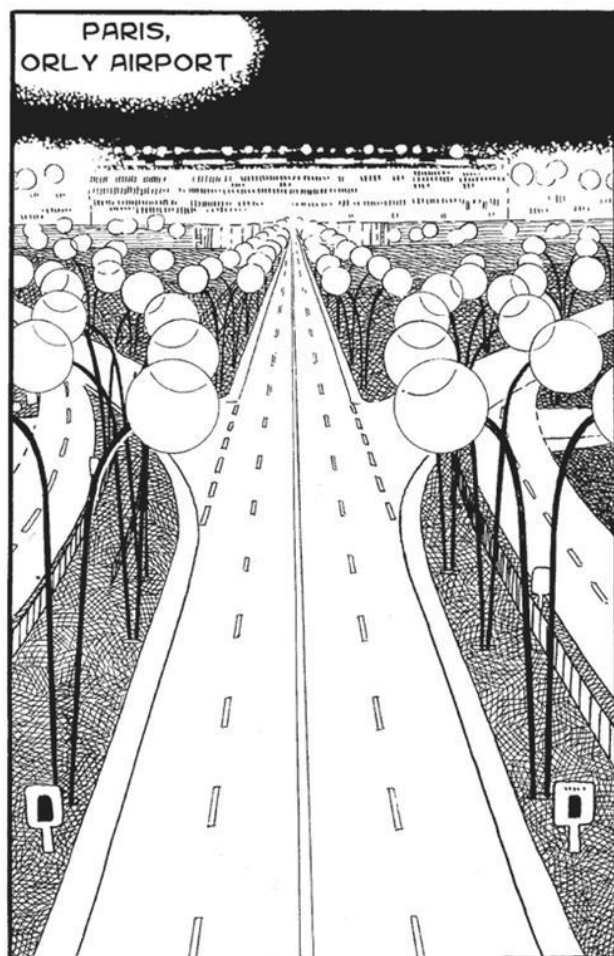




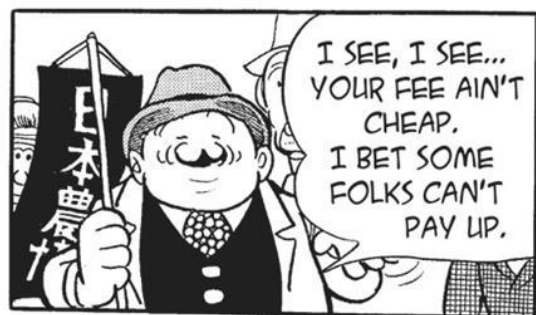
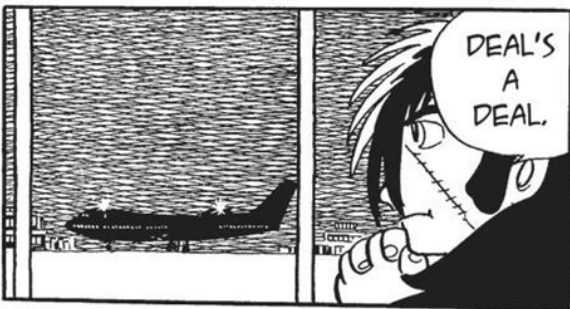
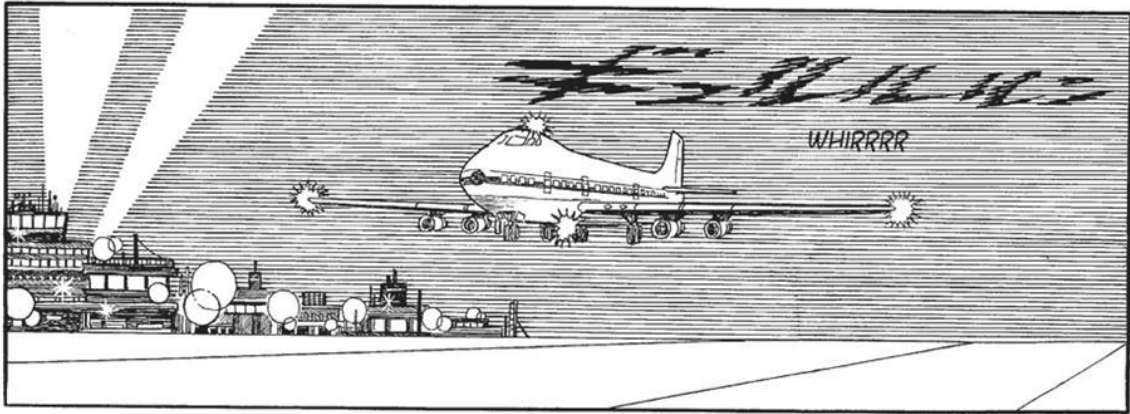


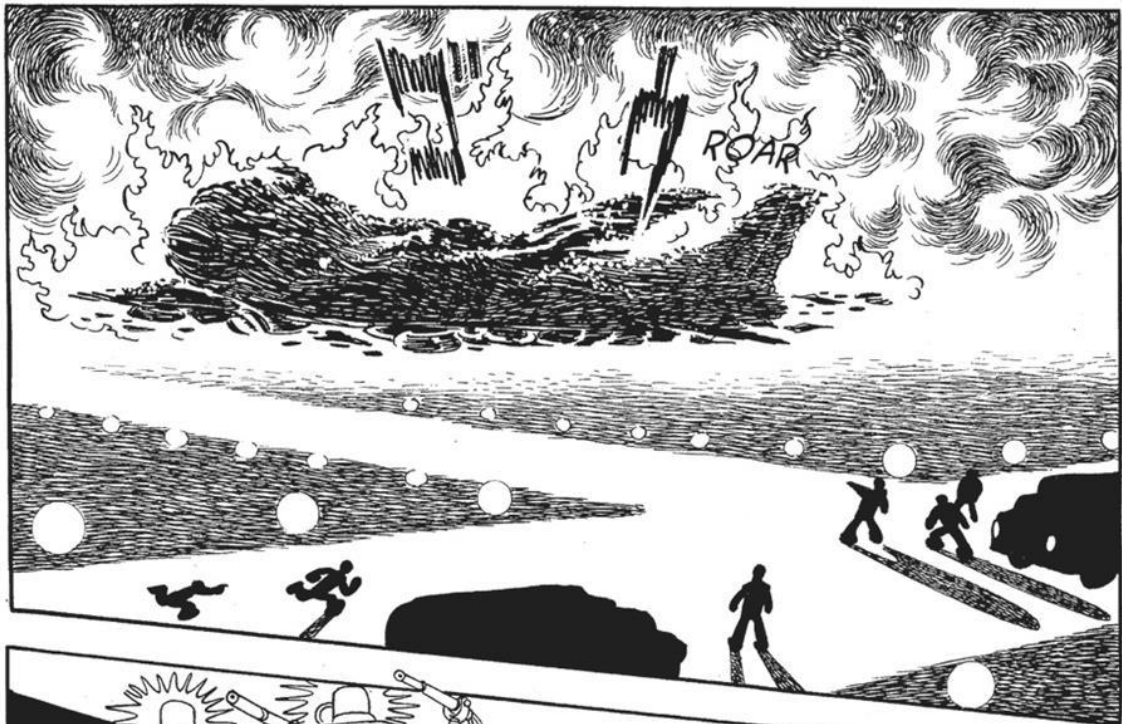


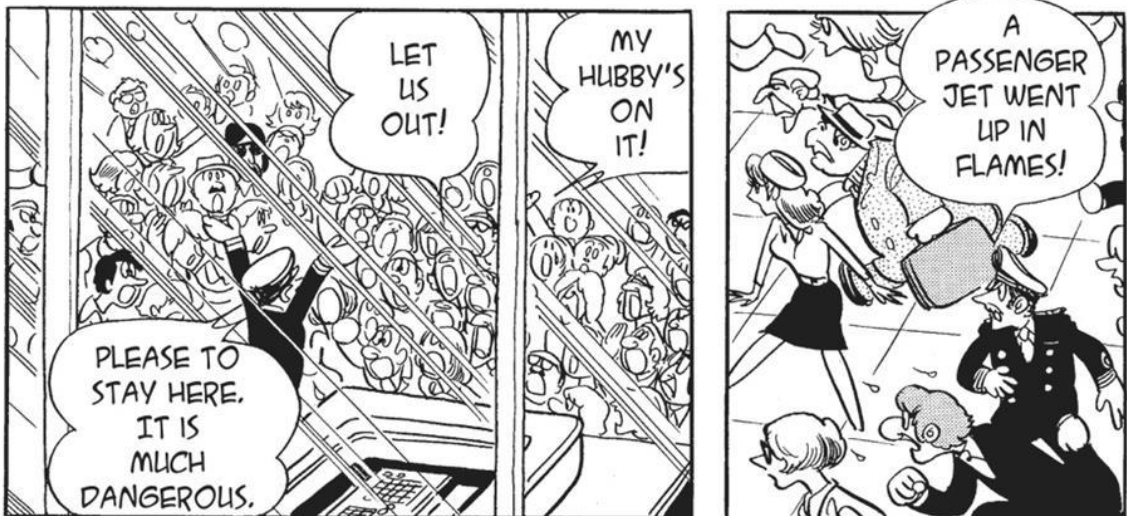
LIFE BOND

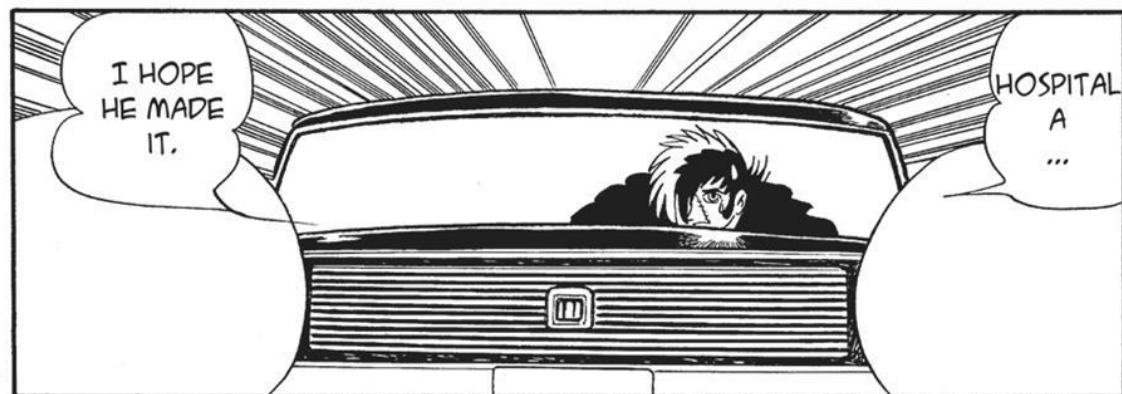
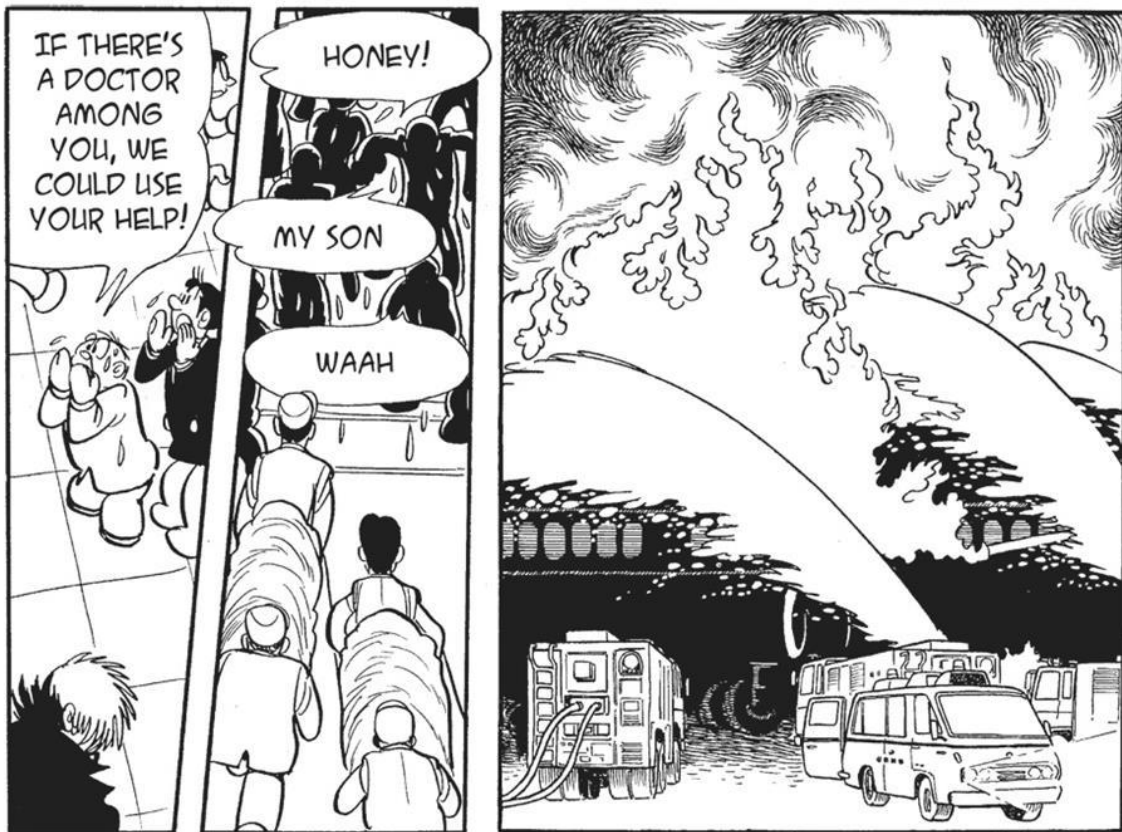


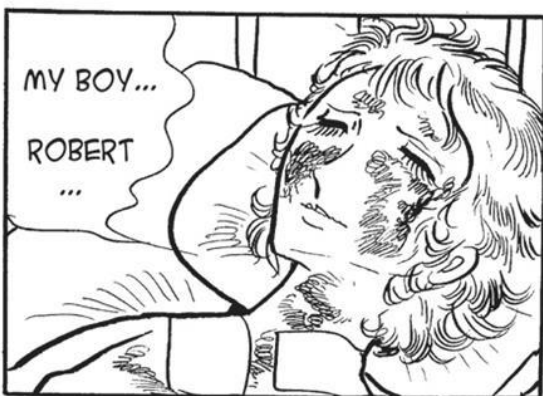
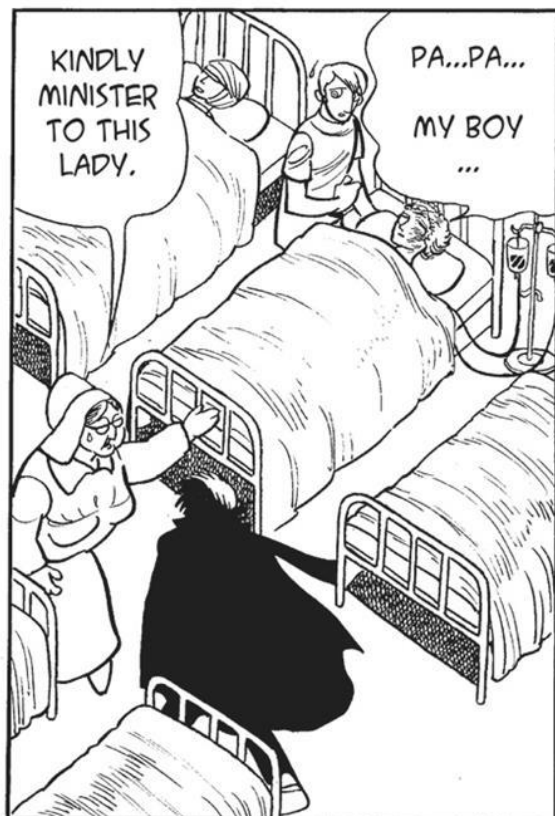
NOTE: THE INTERLOCUTOR'S BANNER IS FOR JAPAN AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES, WHOSE LOBBYING HAS SUPPORTED TRADE BARRIERS. FRANCE IS EUROPE'S AGRICULTURAL GIANT.

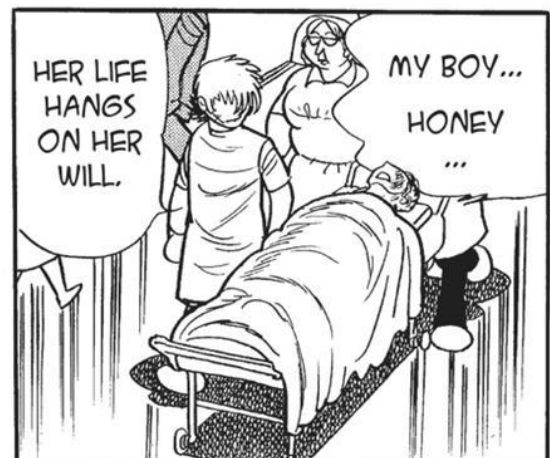


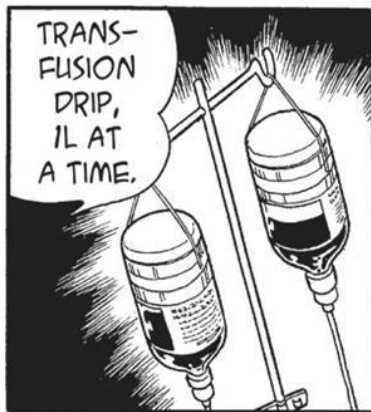




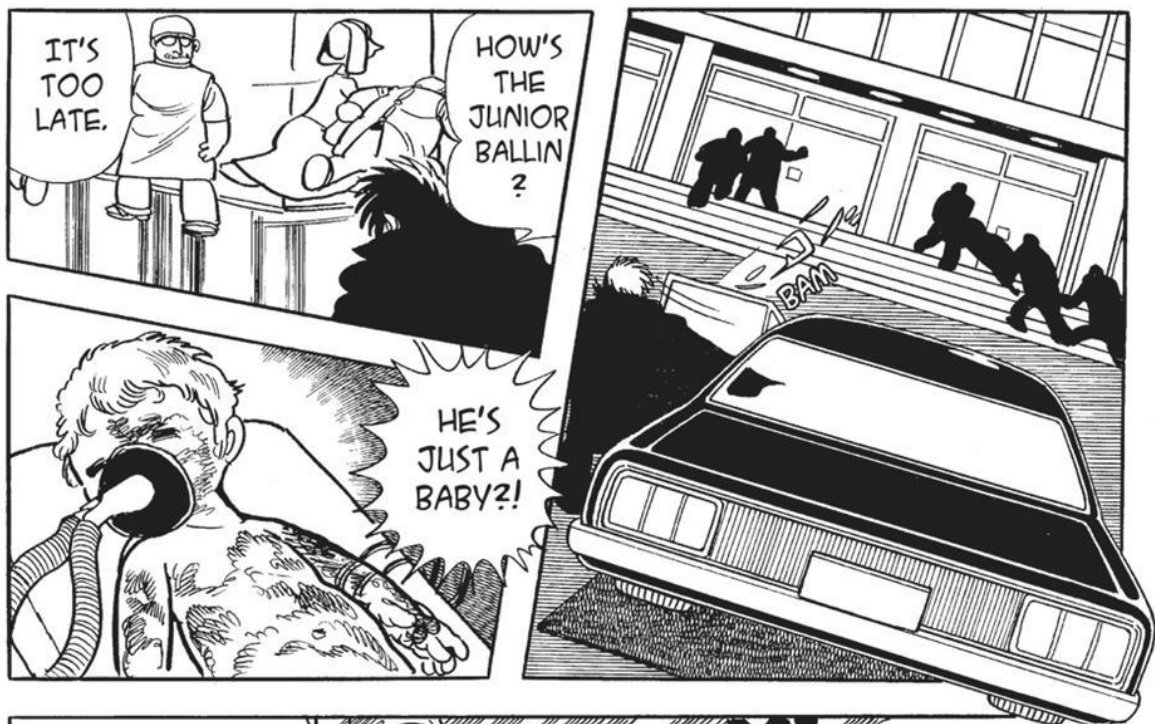


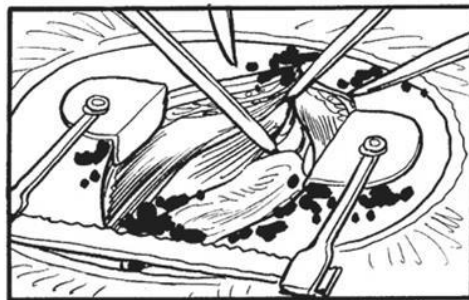
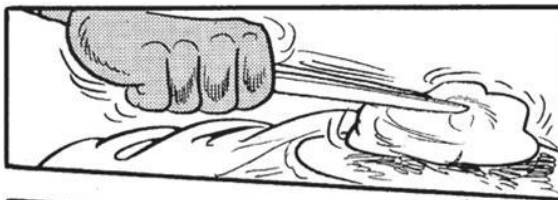




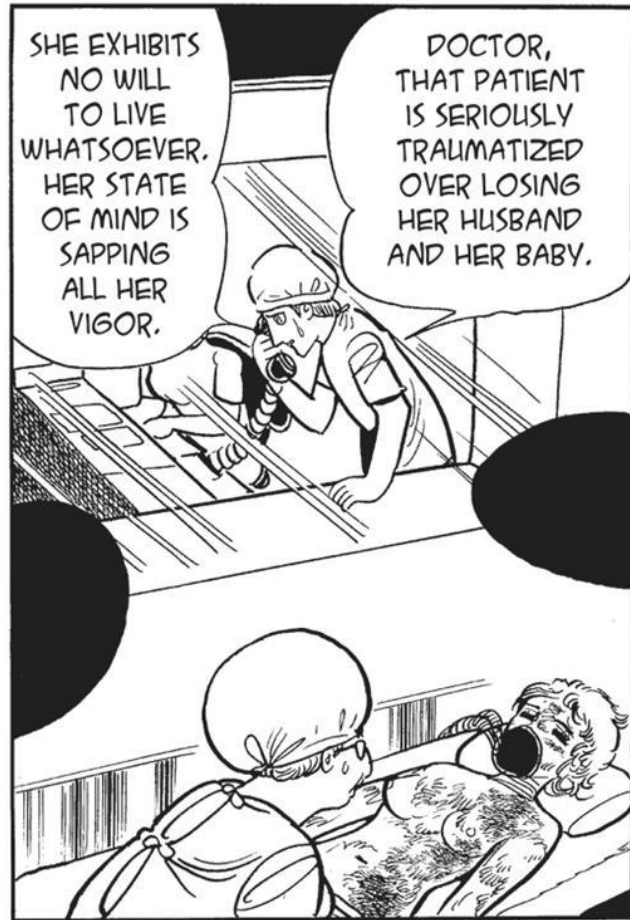


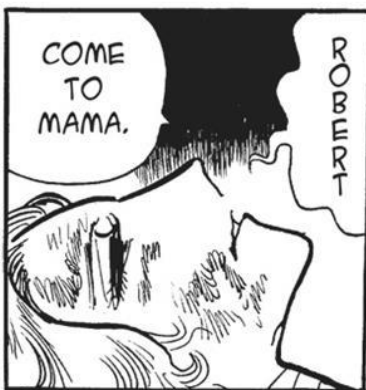
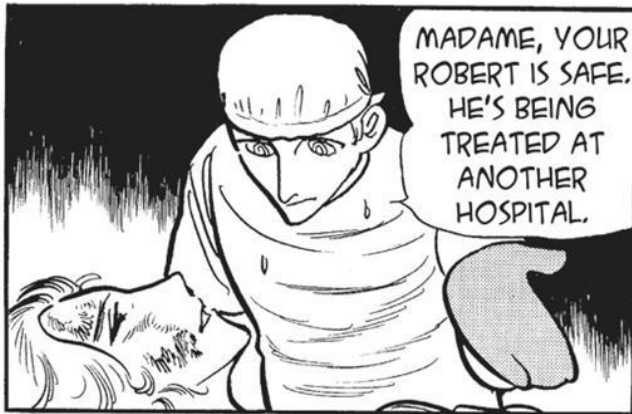




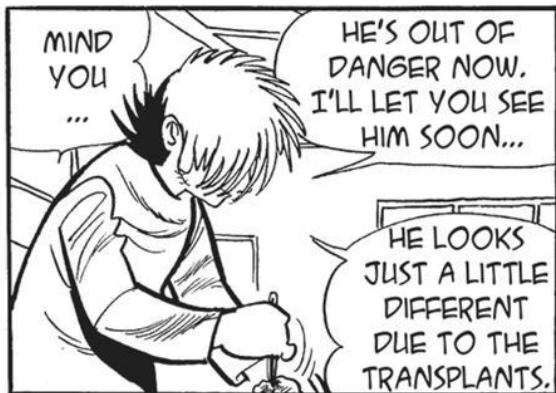
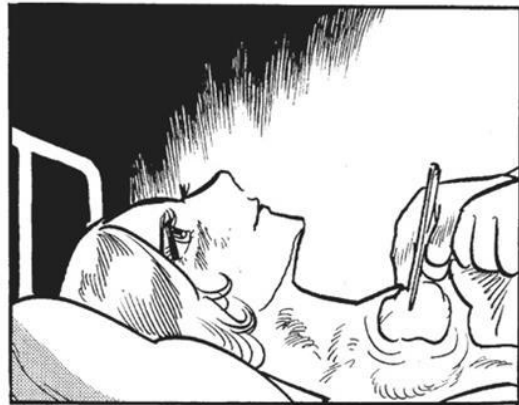


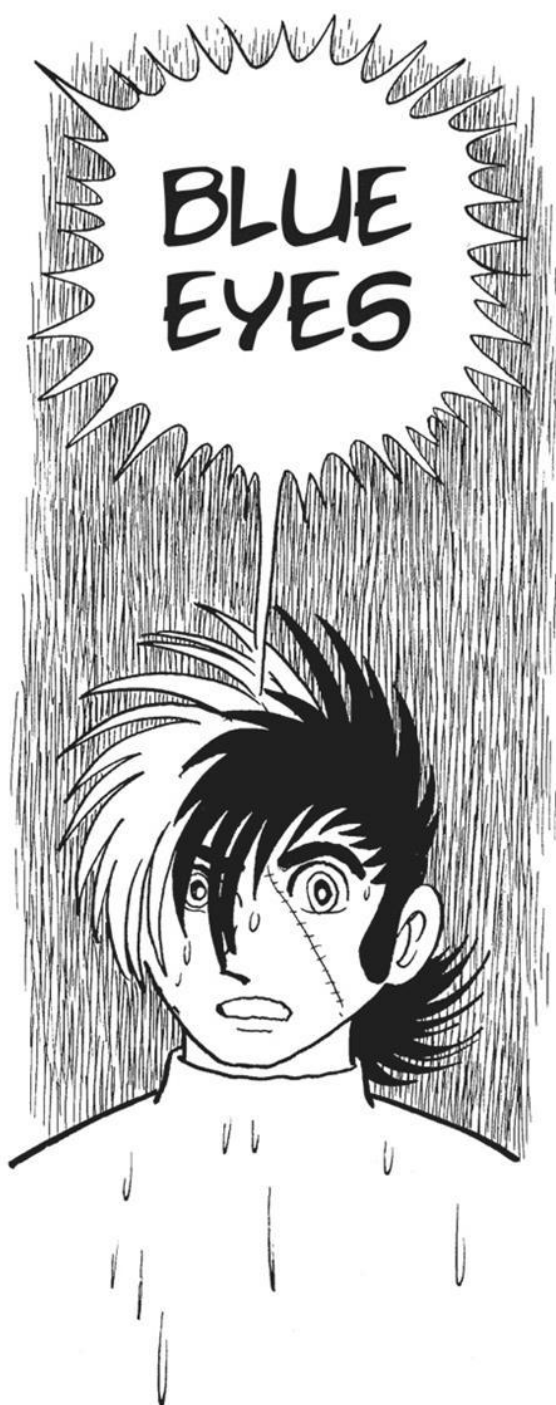
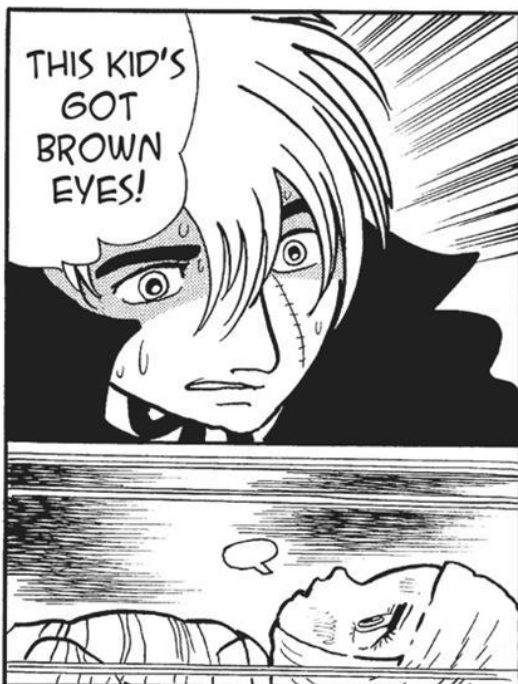






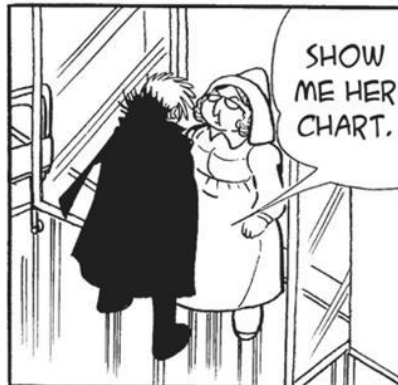


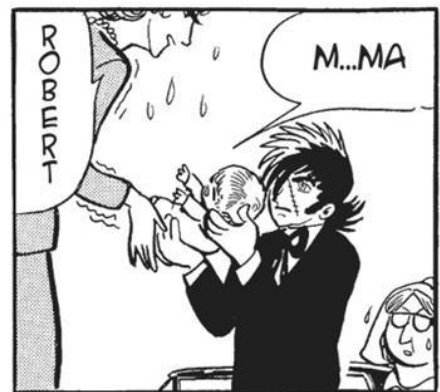
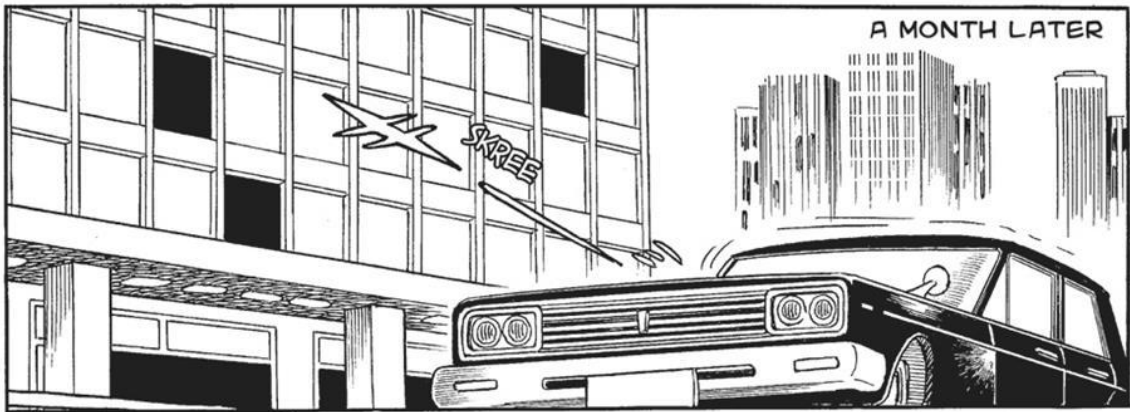


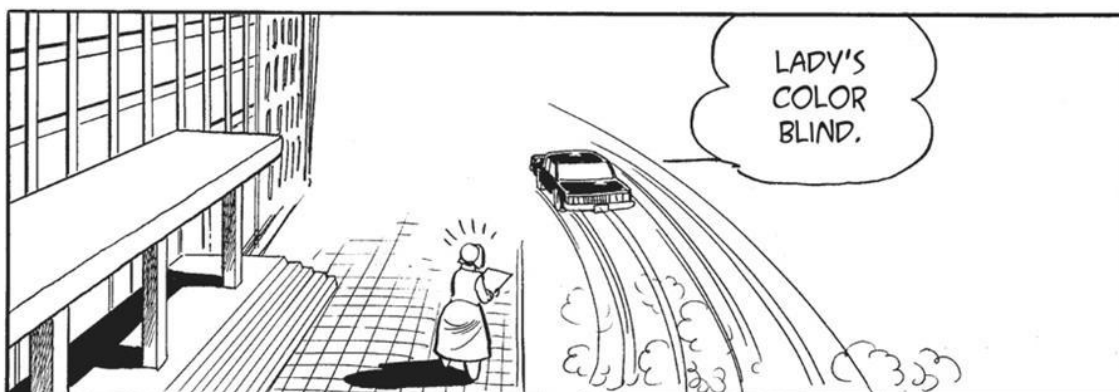
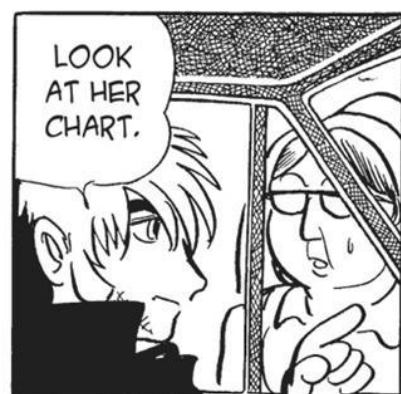




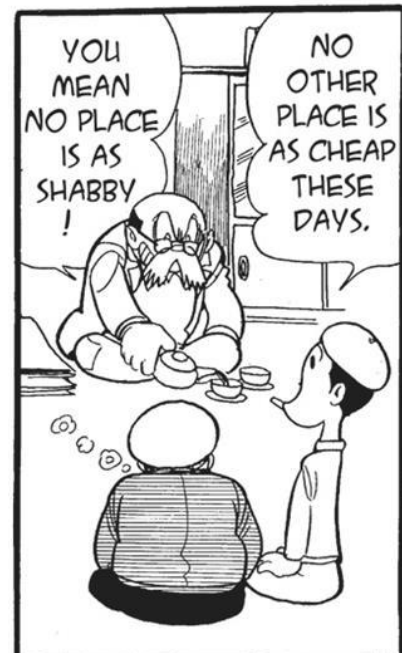
TOO BAD, WHEN THEY'RE RECOVERING SO WELL...
I SHOULDN'T HAVE TRIED TO TRICK THAT LADY.
THE KID WAS FATED TO BECOME AN ORPHAN.







SEALED MEMORY

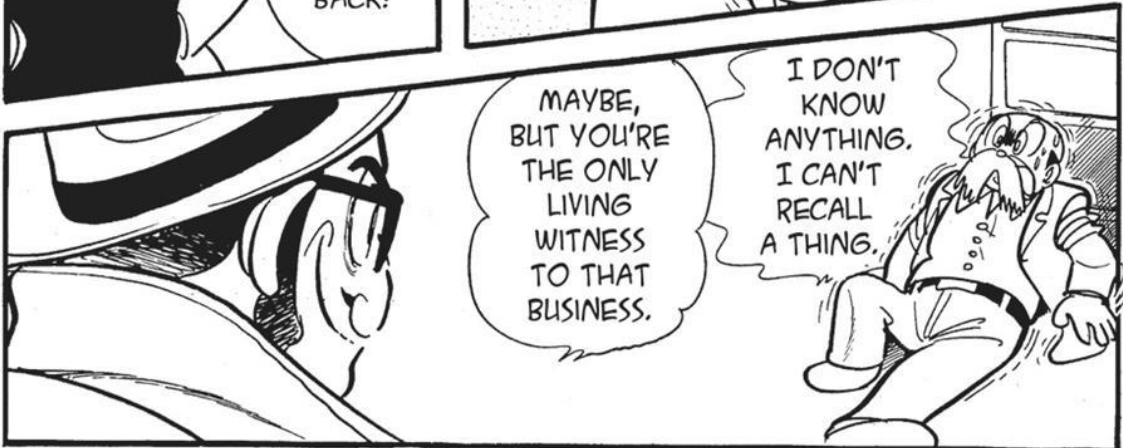


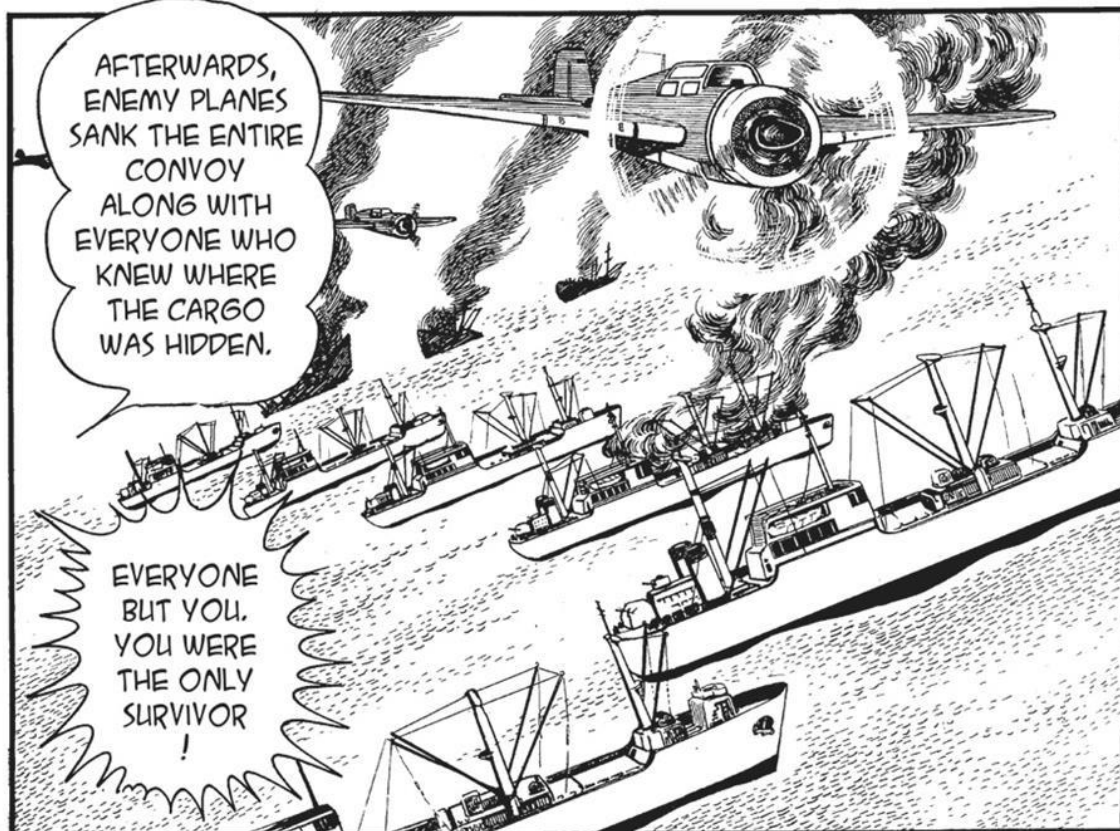
NOTE: "TOKIWA-SO" (AS THE SIGN READS) HOUSED MANY YOUNG MANGA ARTISTS INCLUDING FUJIKO FUJIO, SHOTARO ISHIMORI, AND TEZUKA HIMSELF. THE FILM FRESH SNOW AND ITS EONYMOUS ORIGINAL SONG WERE HITS IN 1943 DESPITE THE WAR.

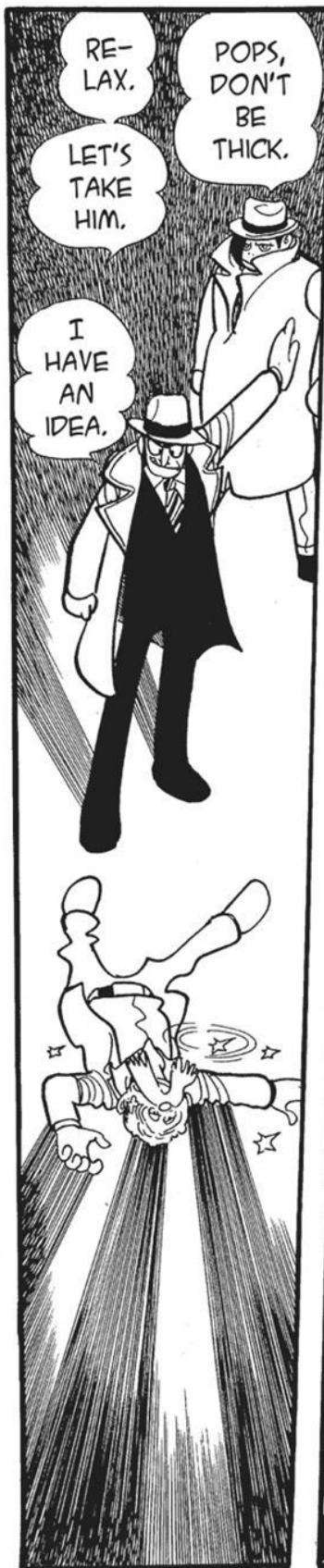


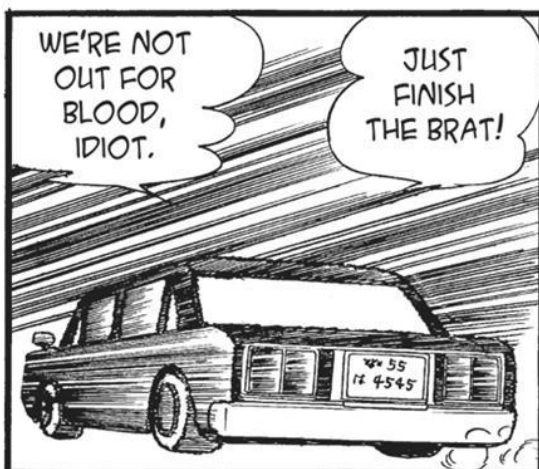
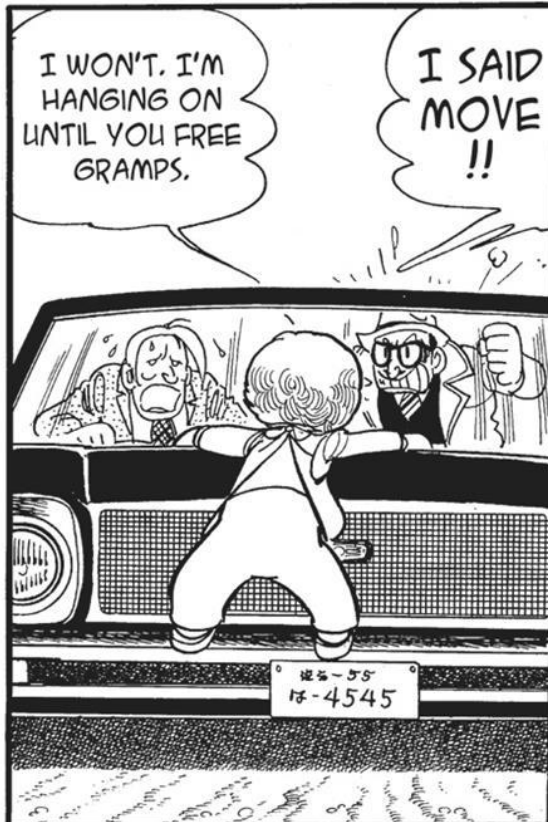
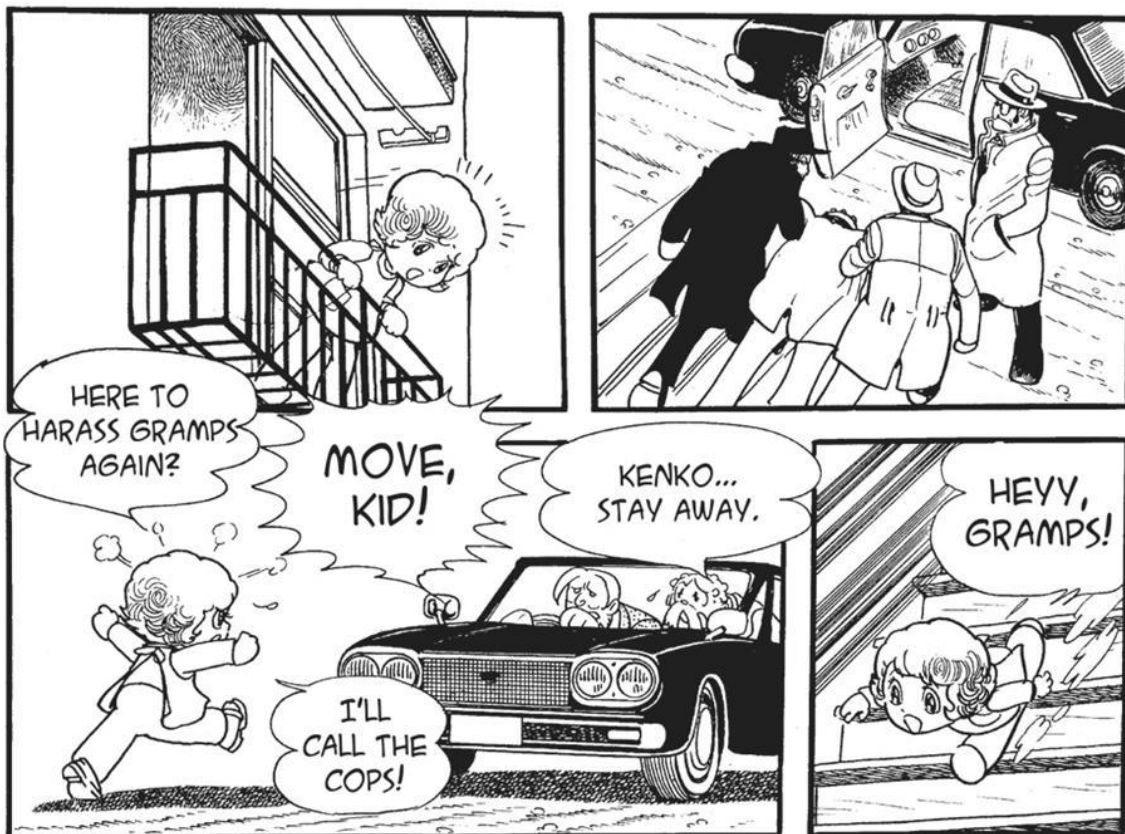


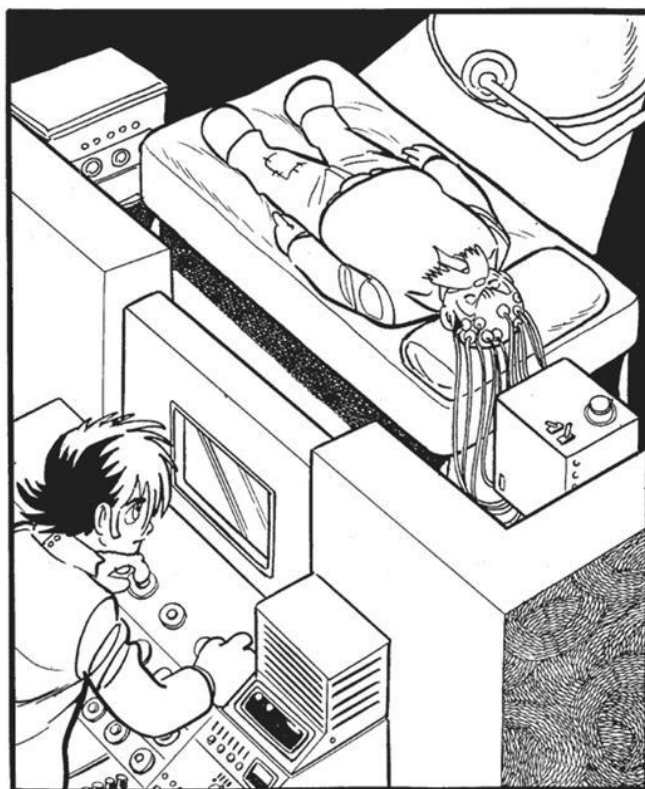
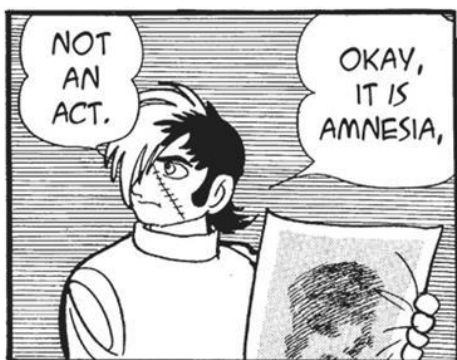
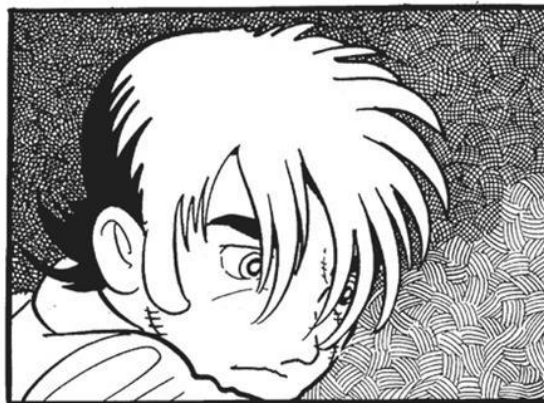
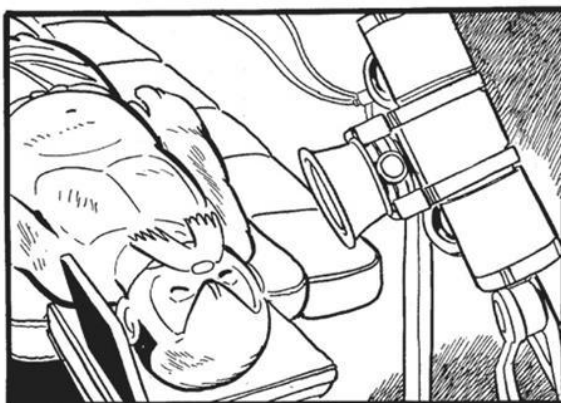


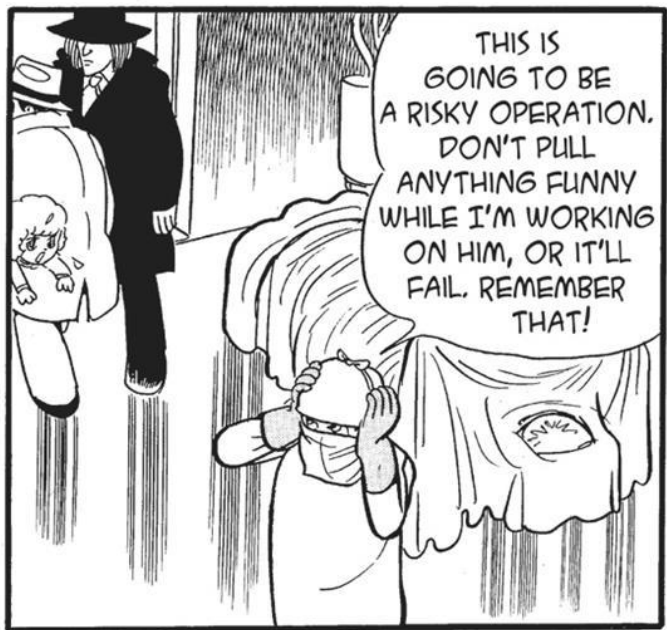
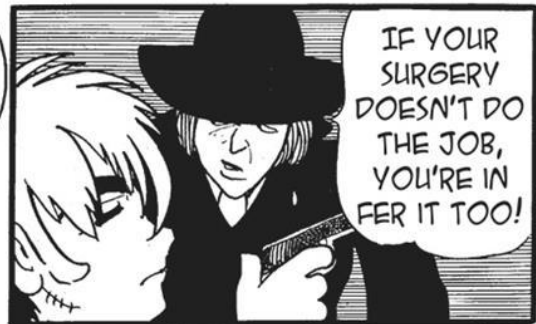


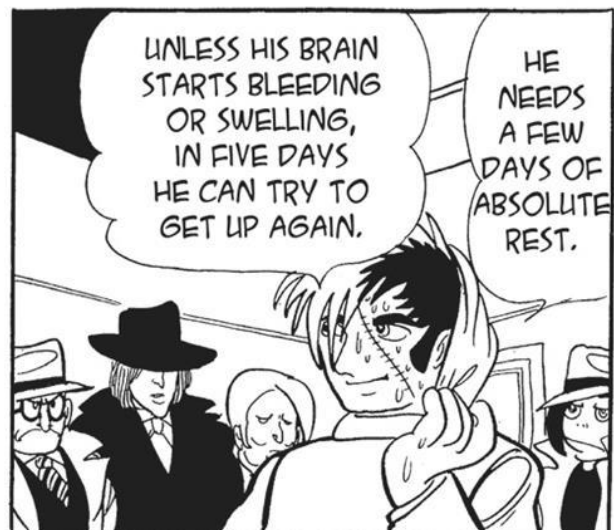
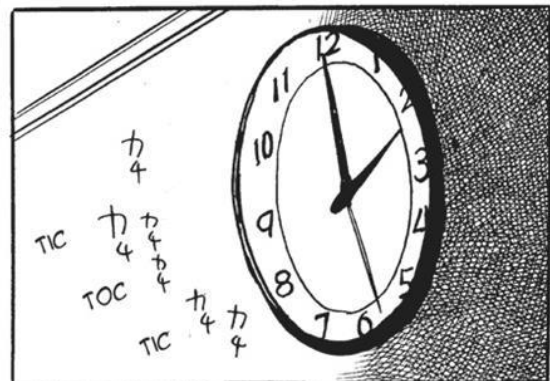
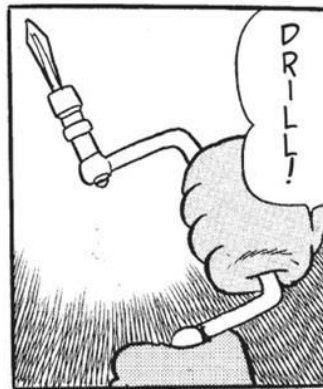


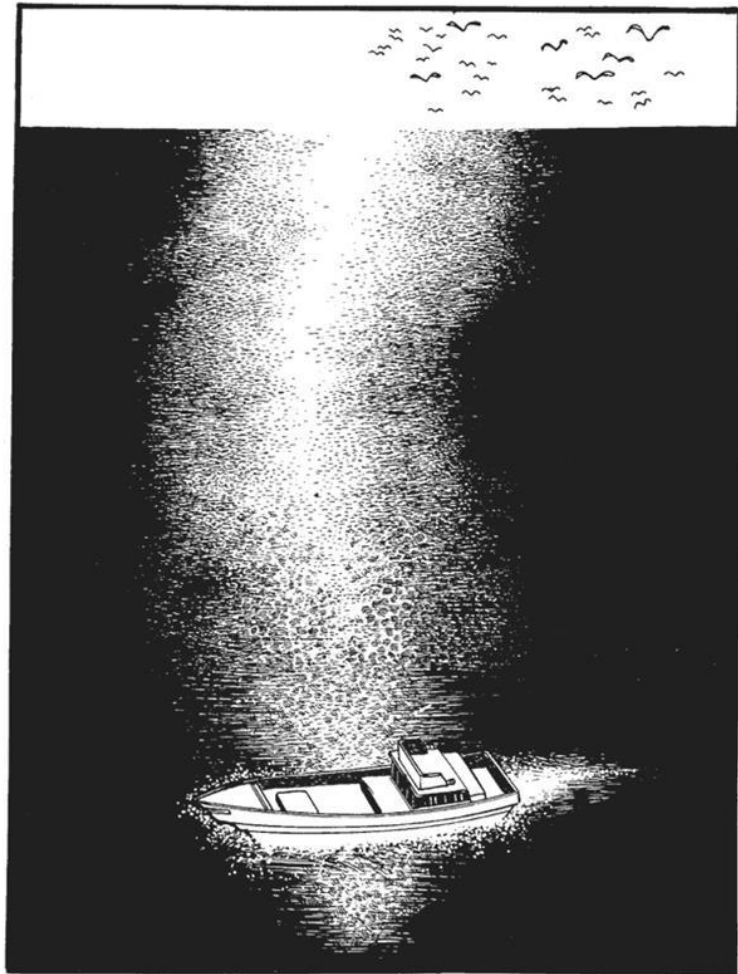


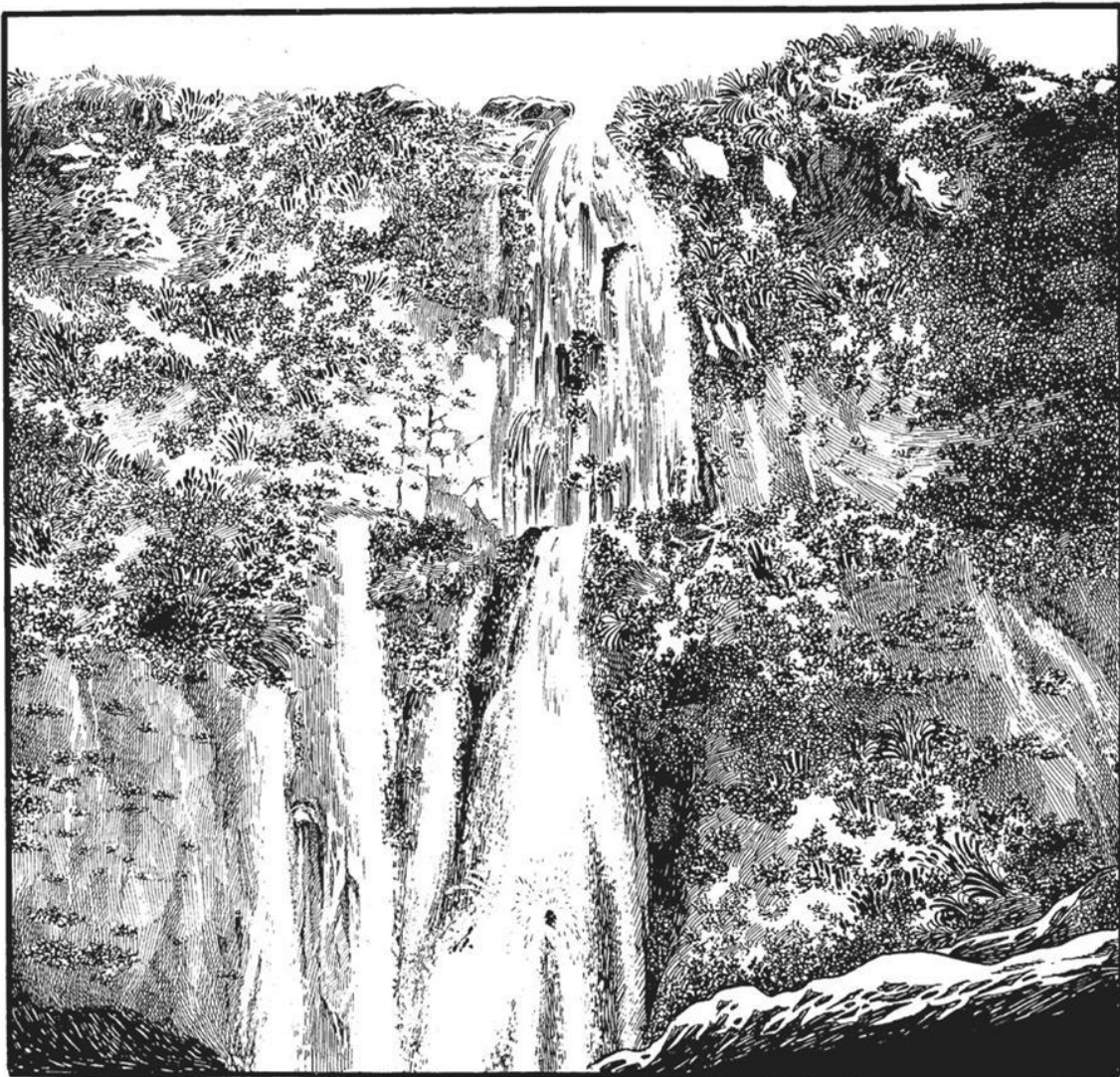


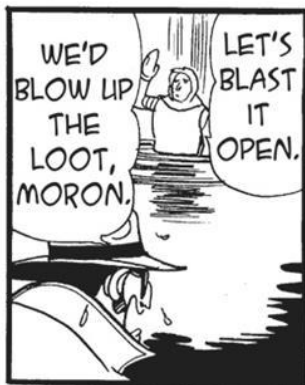














ONCE ALL
THE GASOLINE
WAS CARRIED
INTO THE
CAVE,
WE RETURNED
TO OUR
SHIPS.



THERE,
A HOLE.
WE CAN
GO IN.



WE'RE
IN THE
RIGHT
PLACE.

OILY
SMELL
...

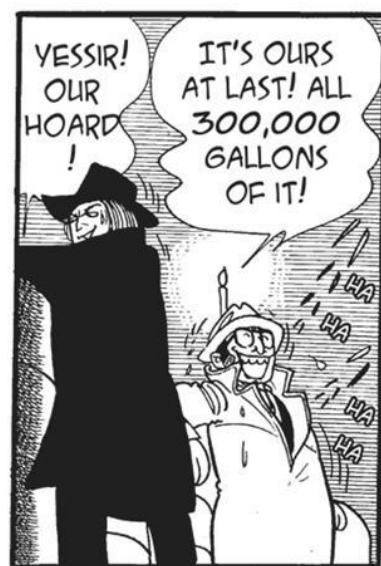
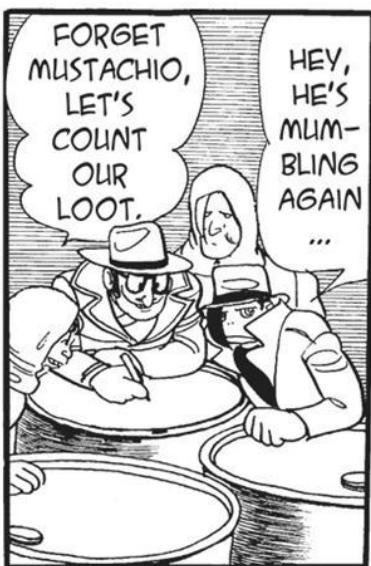
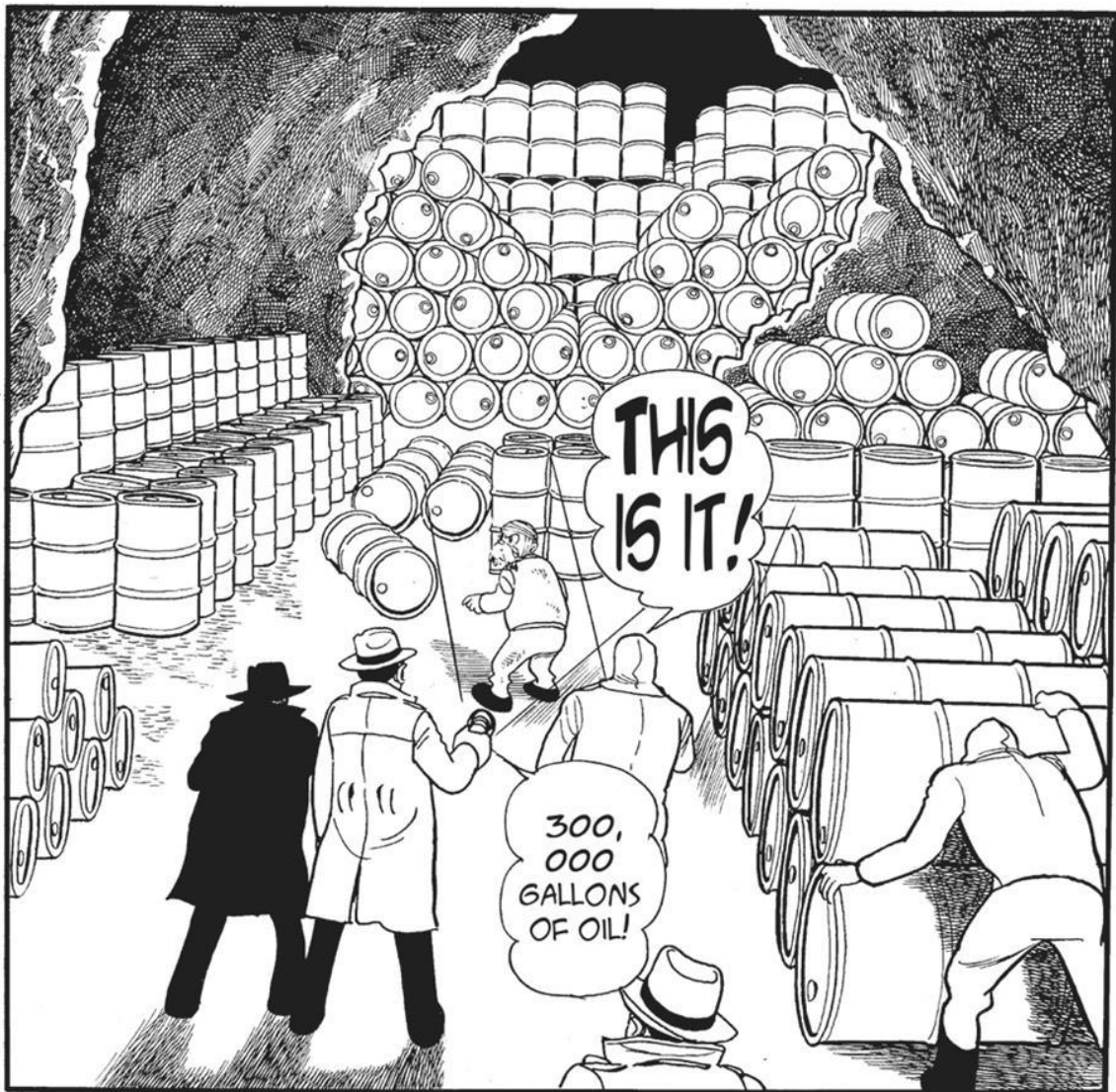


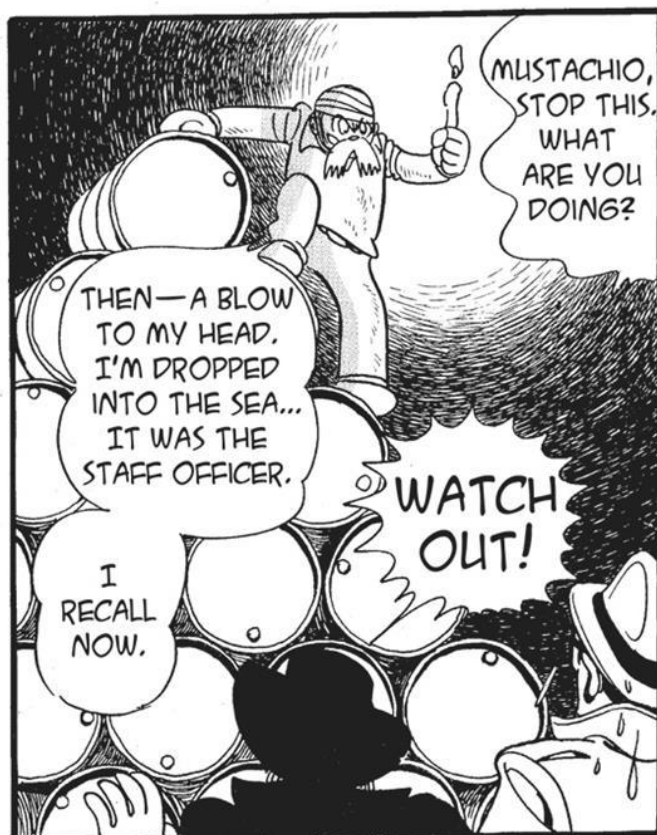
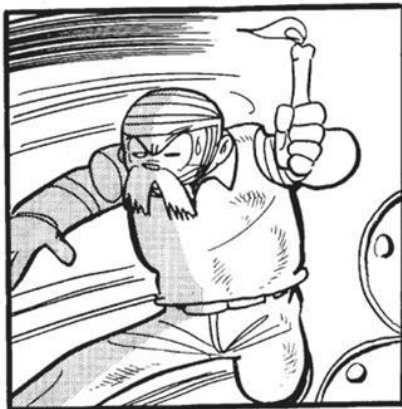
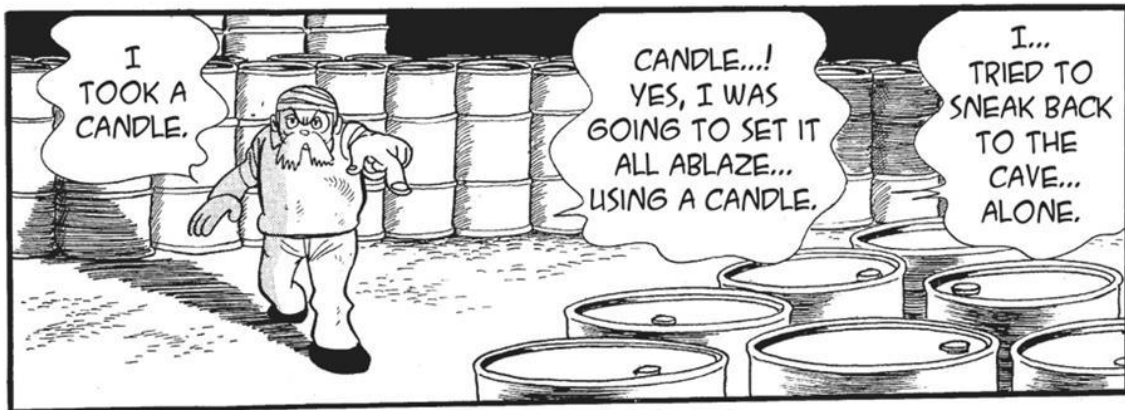
BOSS,
COME
SEE THIS!
WE'VE
HIT THE
MOTHER
LODE!



THE AMERICANS
WOULD NEVER FIND
THE PLACE, THE
STAFF OFFICER SAID.
IF JAPAN ITSELF
BECAME
A BATTLEGROUND,
WE'D HAVE A
LAST BASTION.

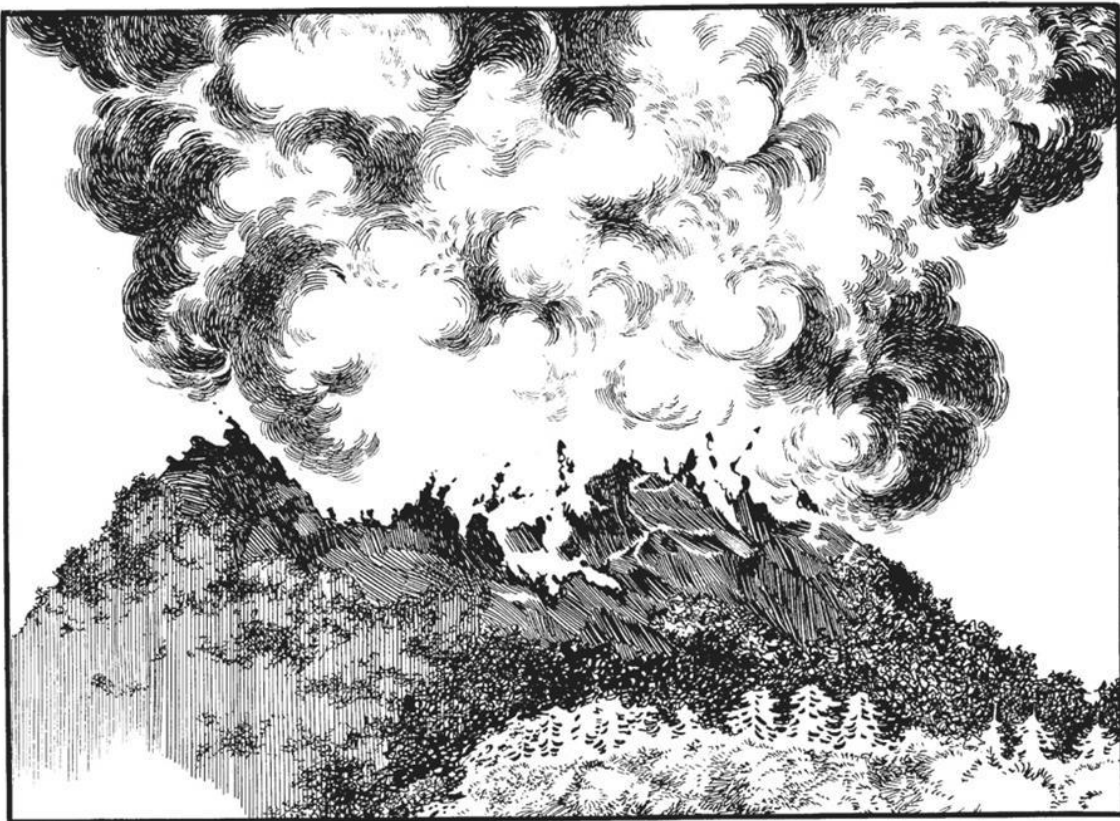
IT'S ALL
COMING
BACK
TO HIM.
NICE.



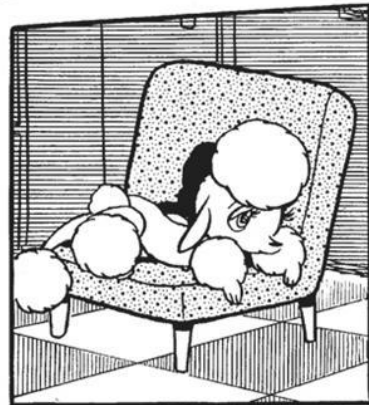
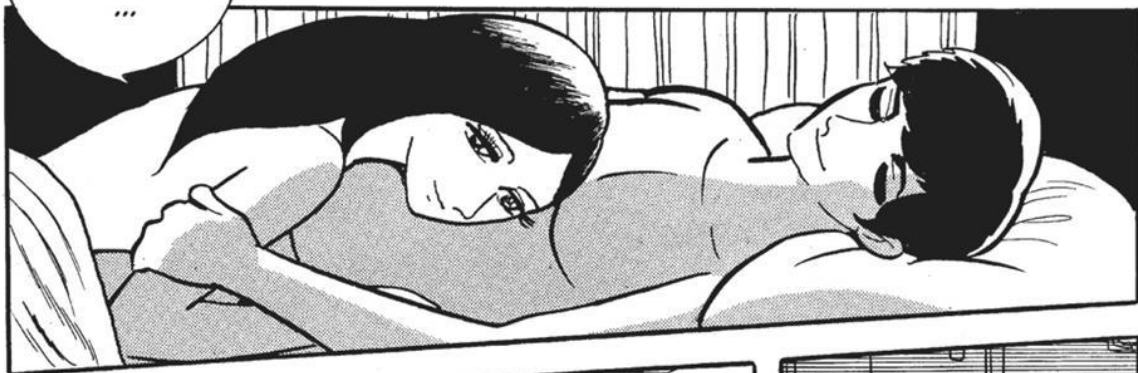


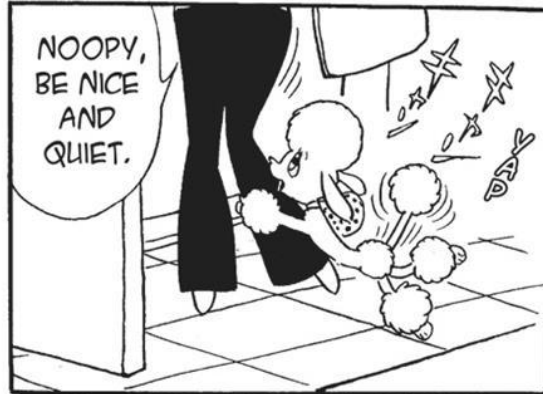
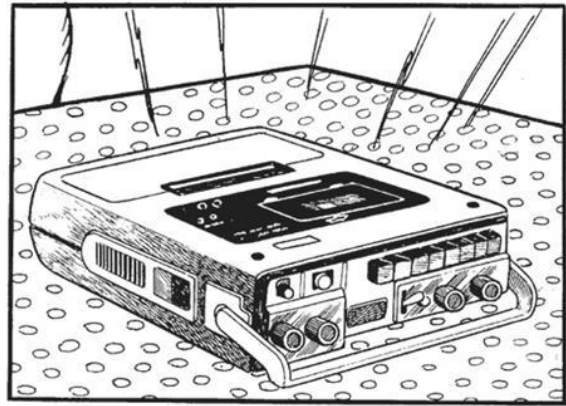
NOTE: THE VILLAIN BOSS IS "PLAYED" BY THE TEZUKA FIXTURE ACETYLENE LAMP, WHO IS OFTEN PICTURED WITH A CANDLE ON HIS HEAD (SEE P. 36, FOR INSTANCE). HERE, IN A STUNNING GAG, THE CANDLE IS REAL.

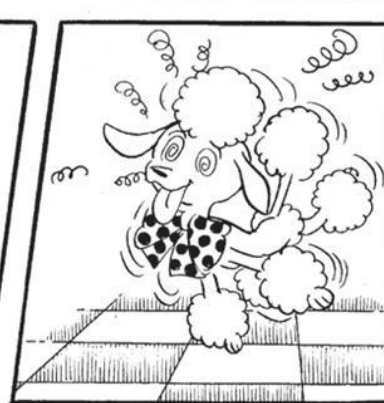
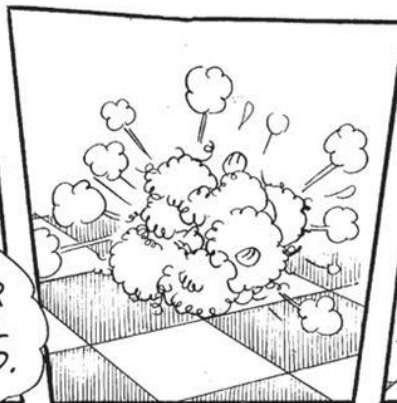
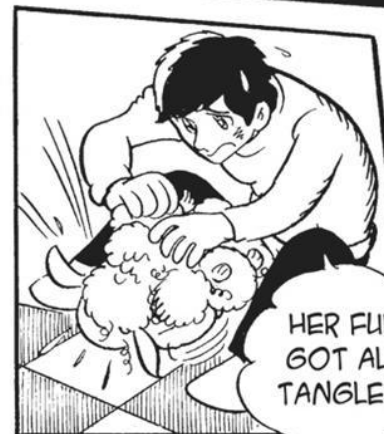
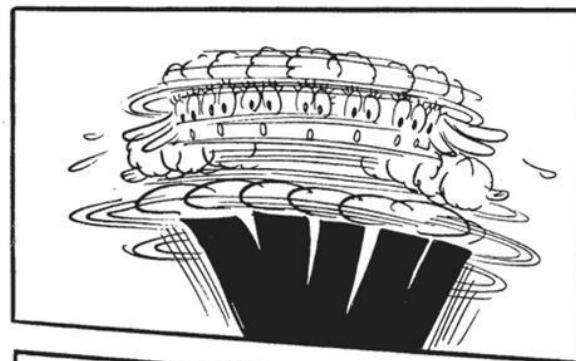
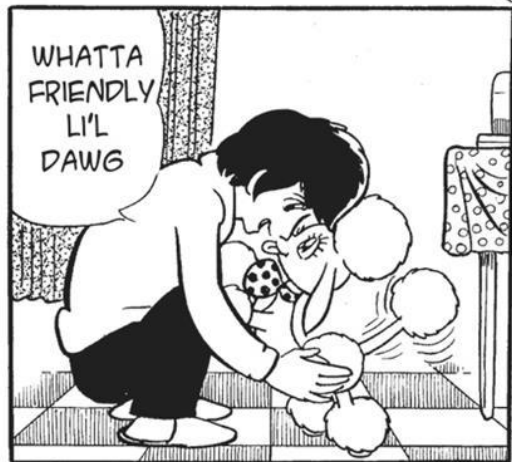


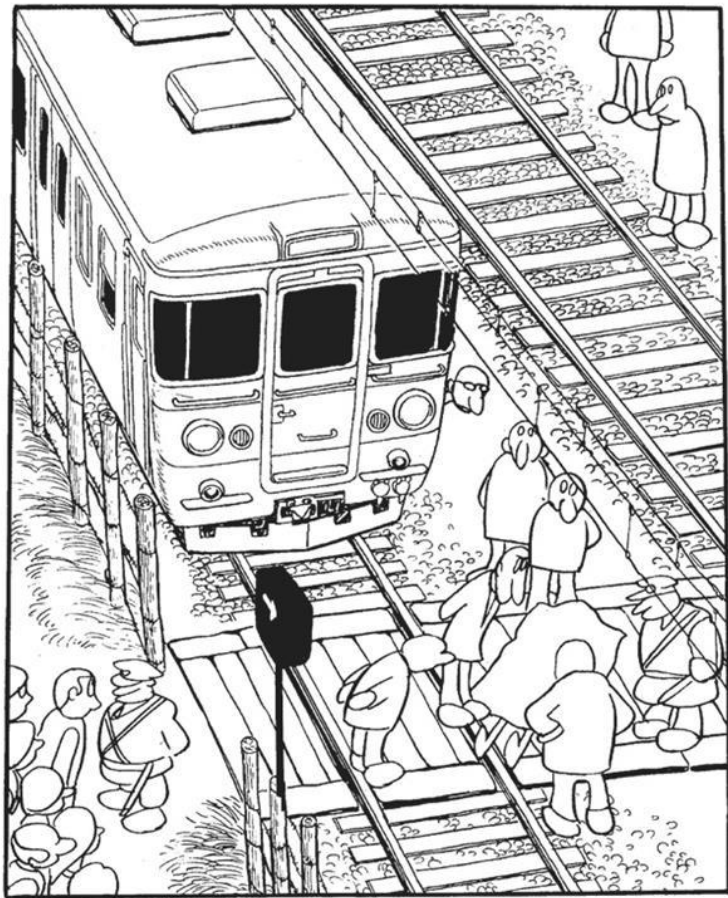
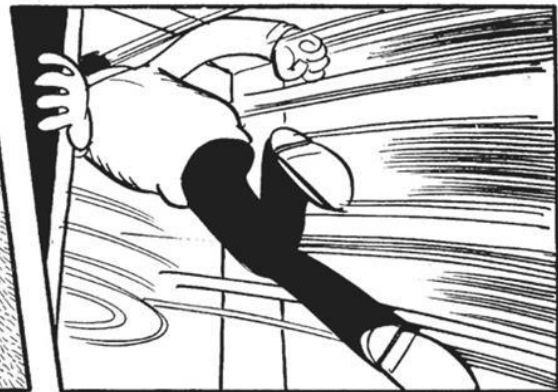
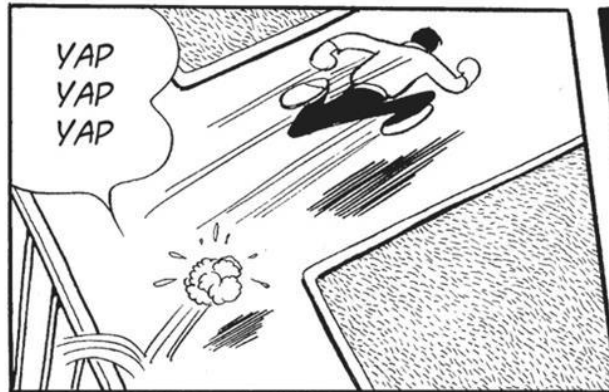


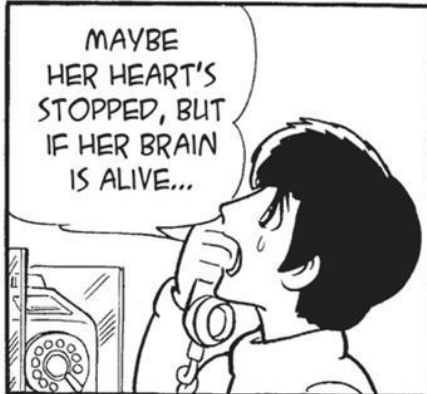
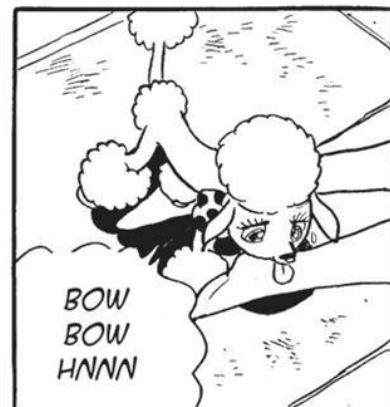
THE WHISPERS OF A DOG

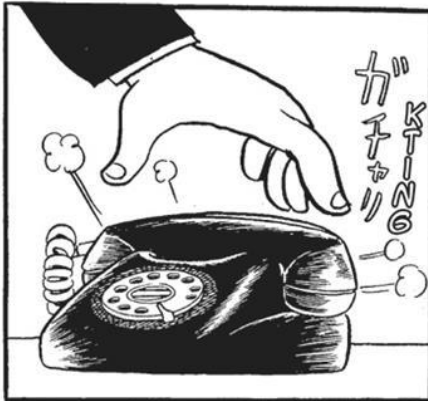
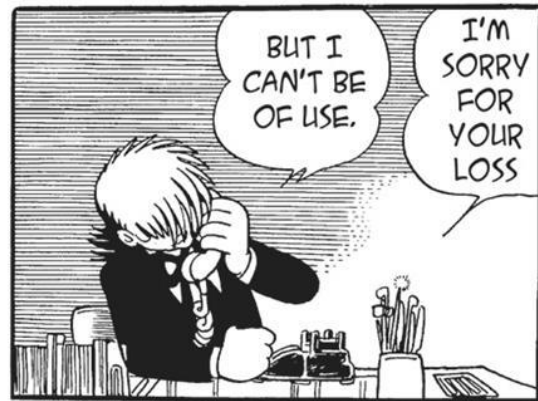


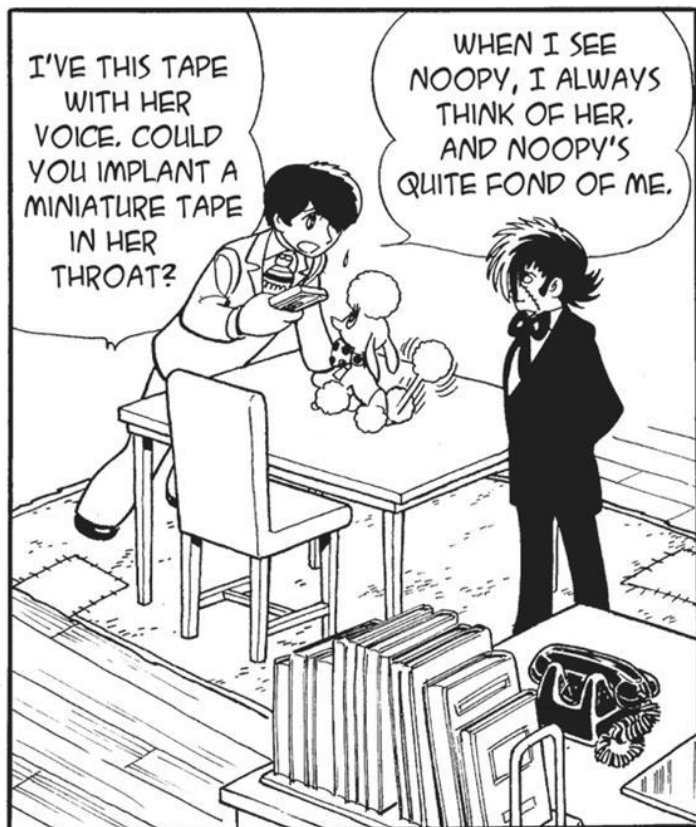
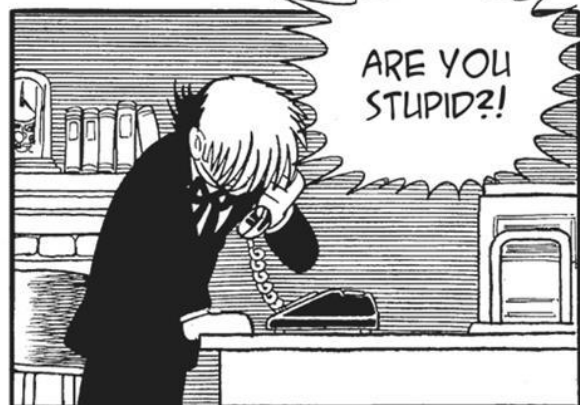


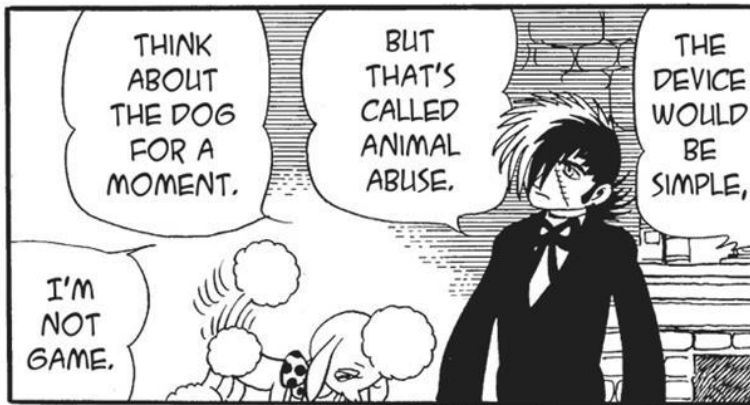


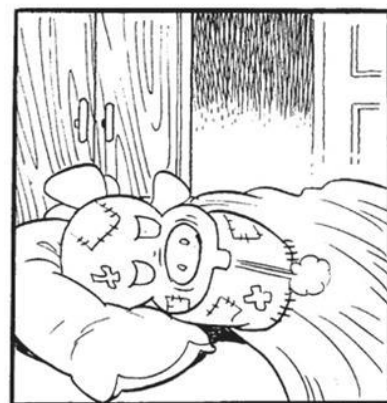
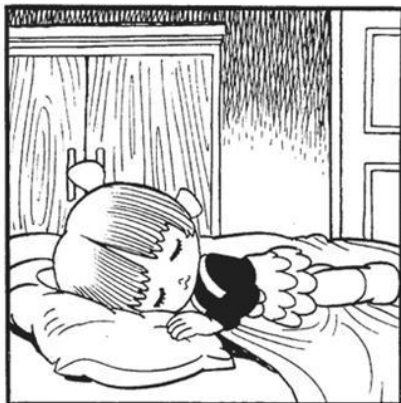
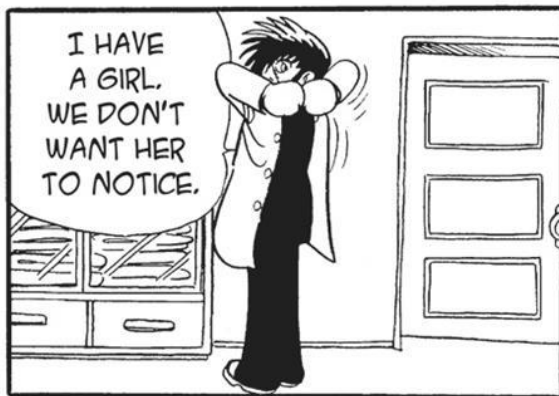


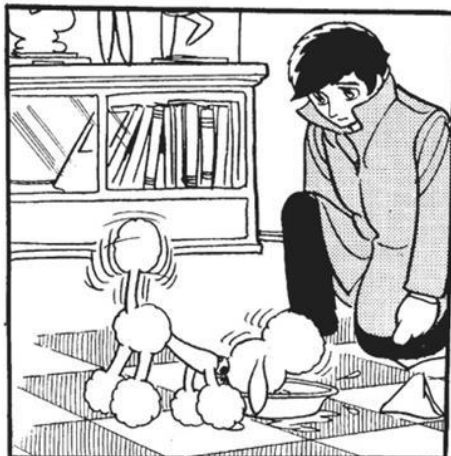
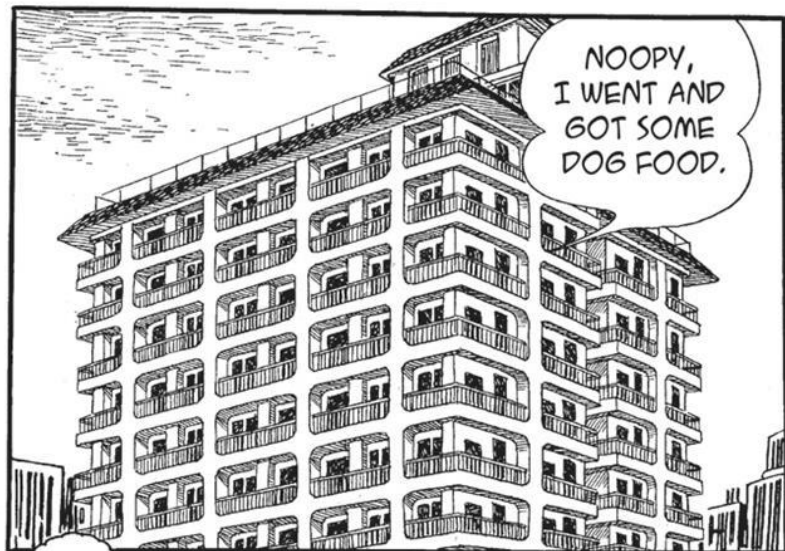
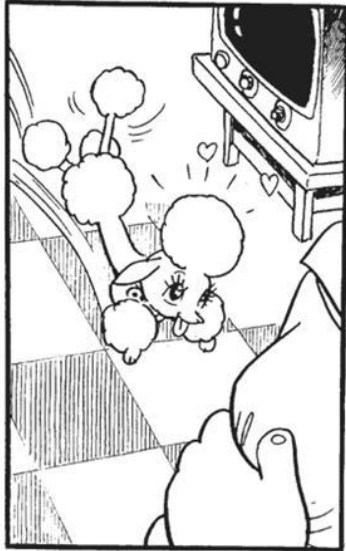


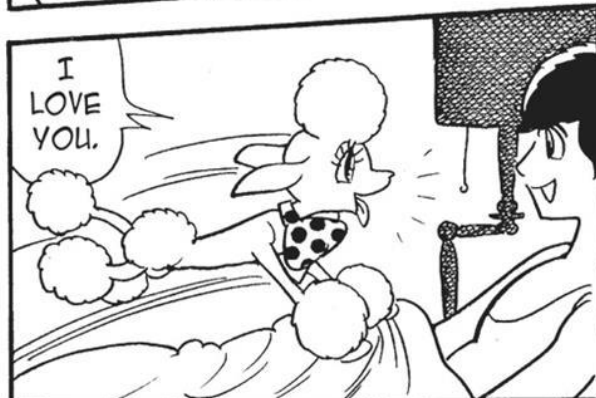
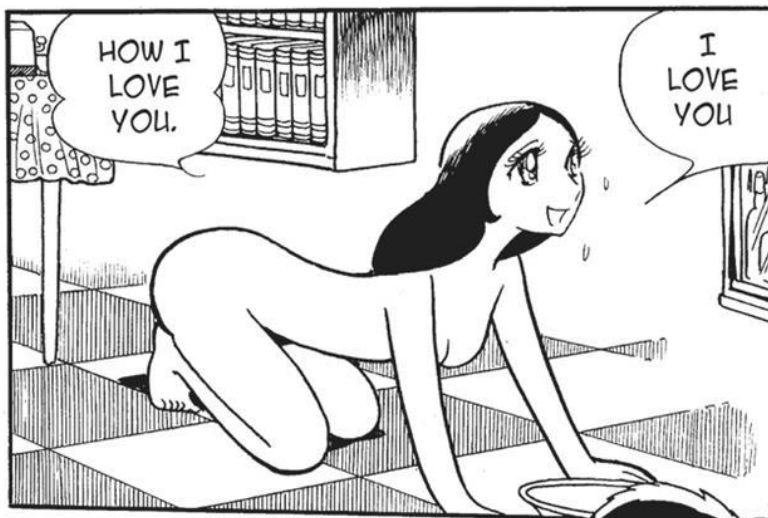




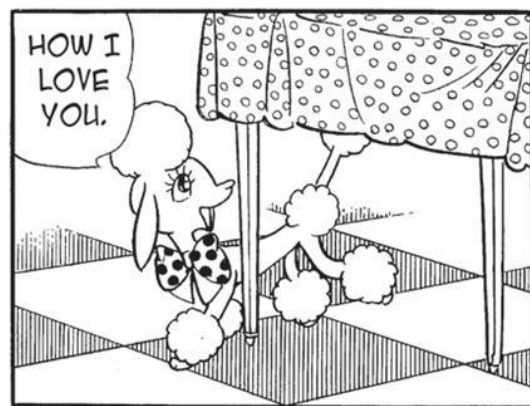


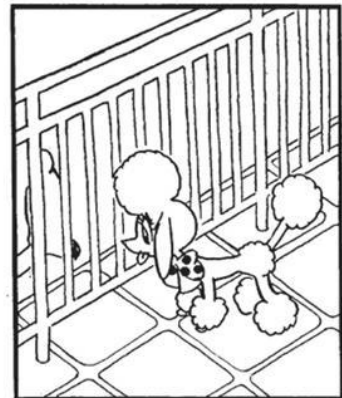
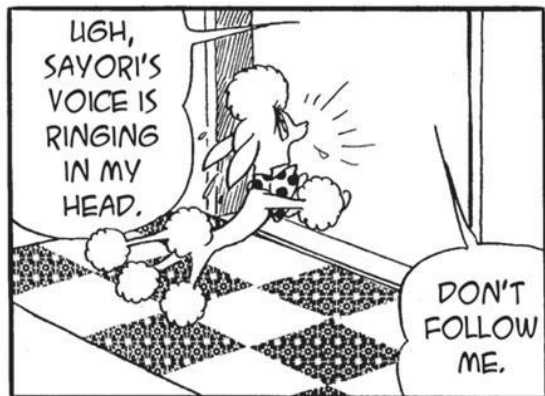
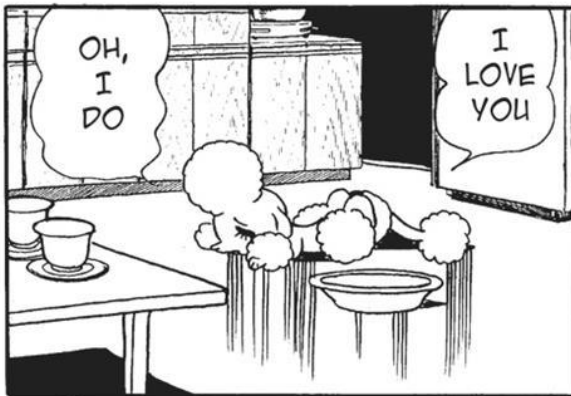


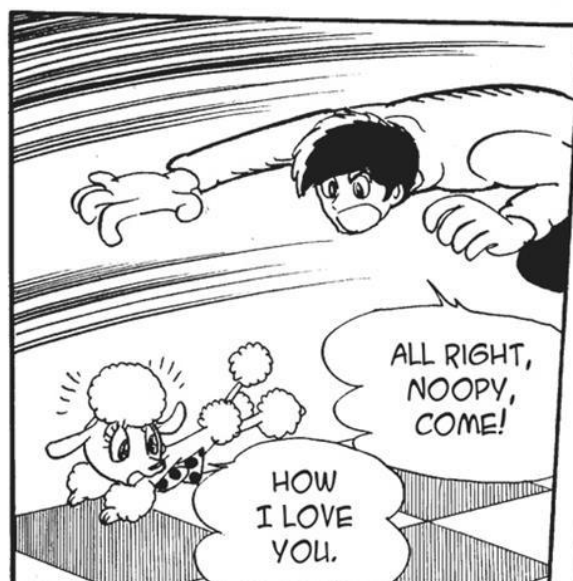
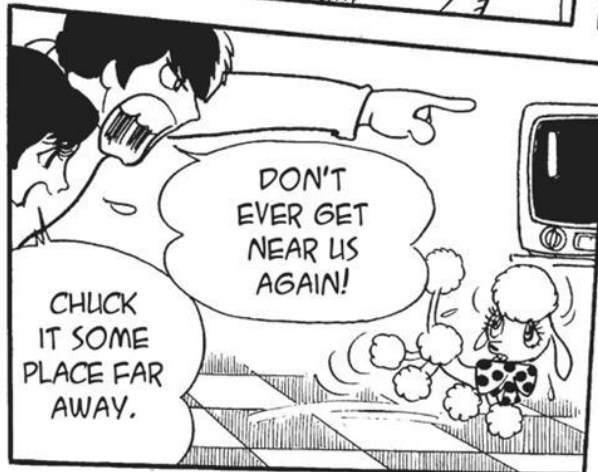


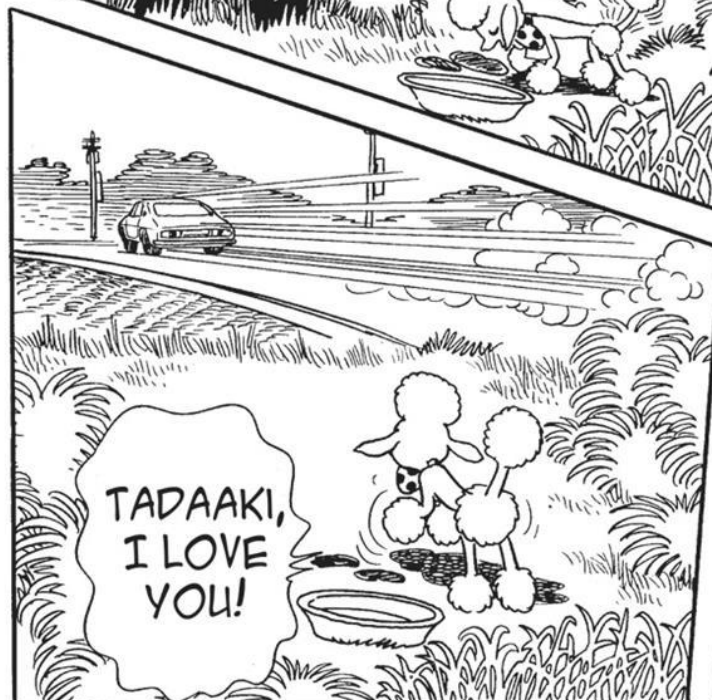
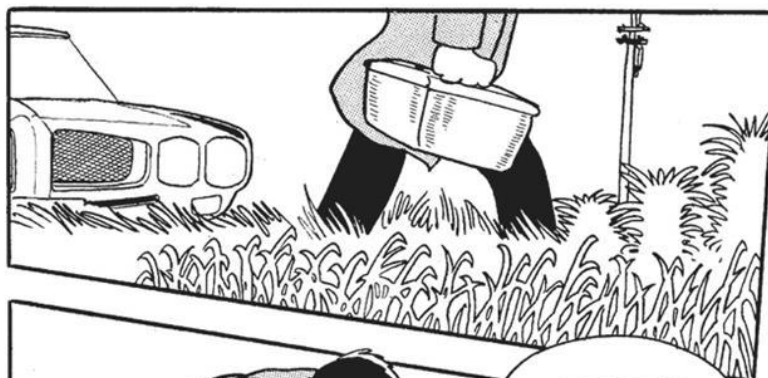


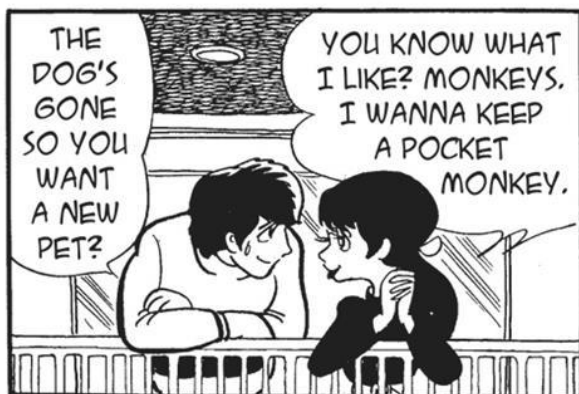


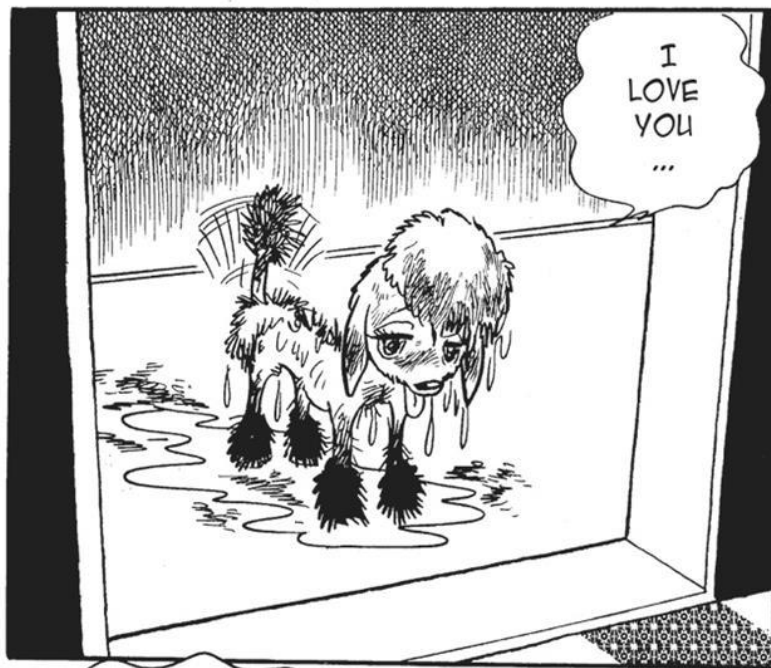




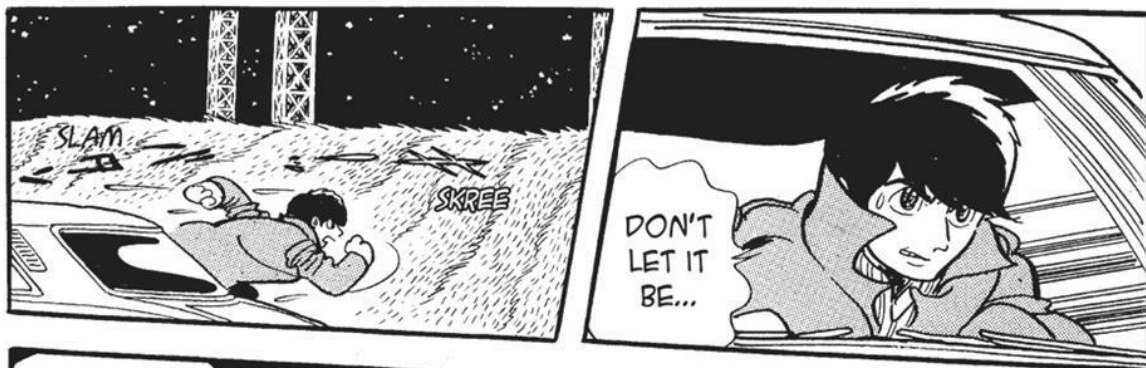


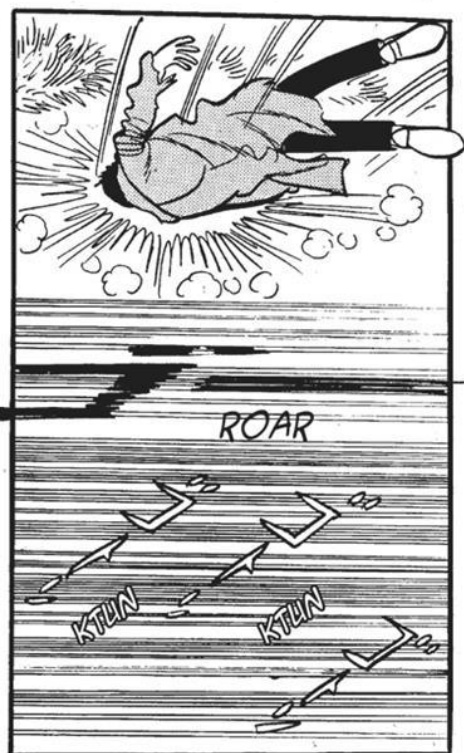
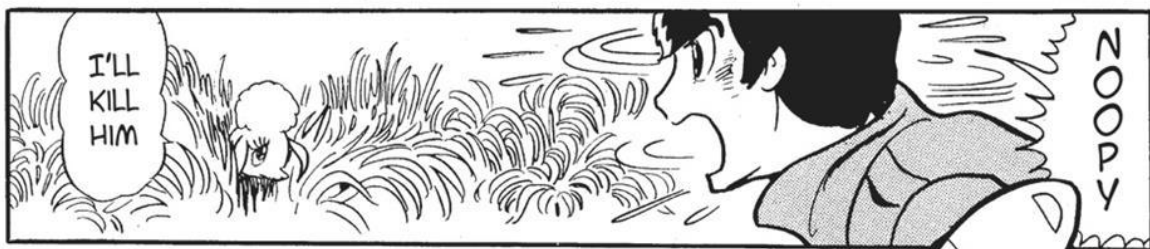


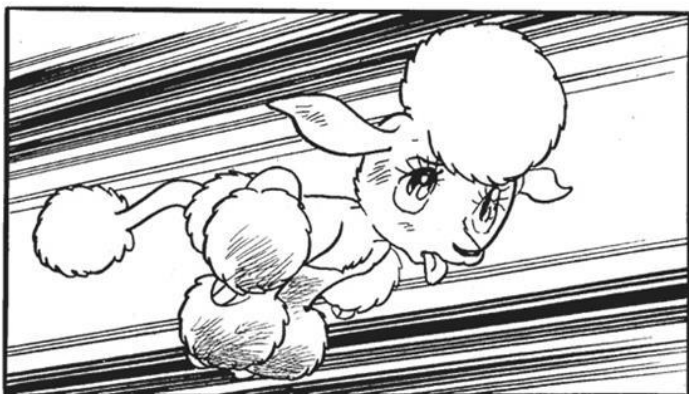
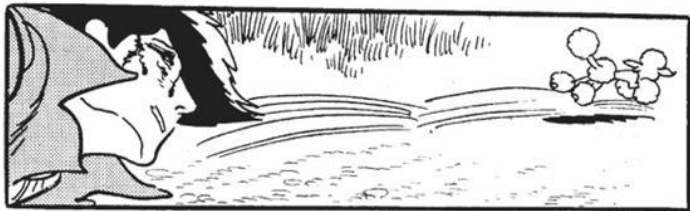
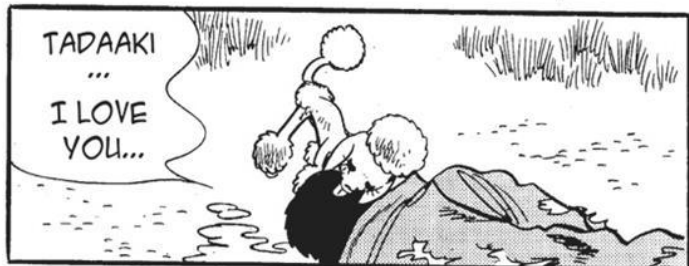
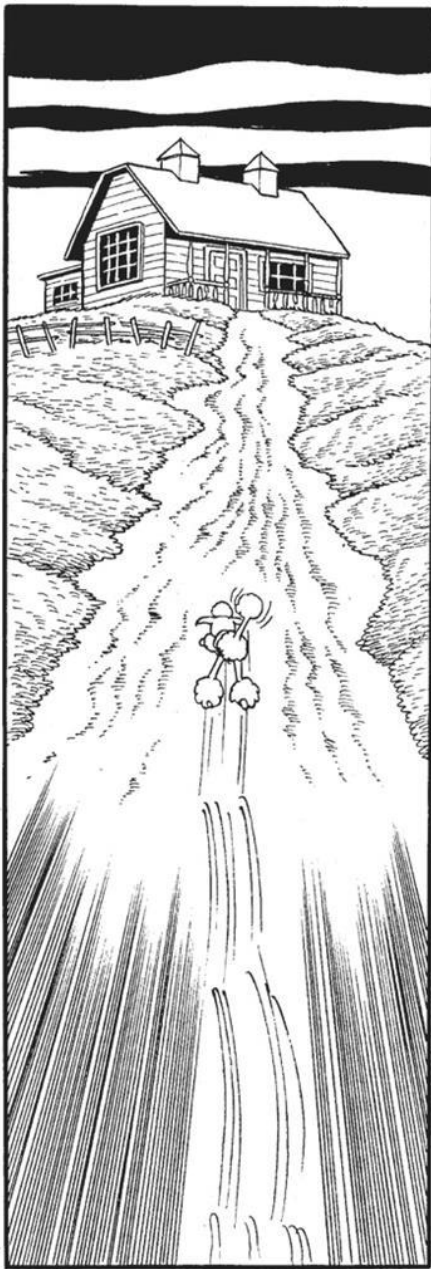
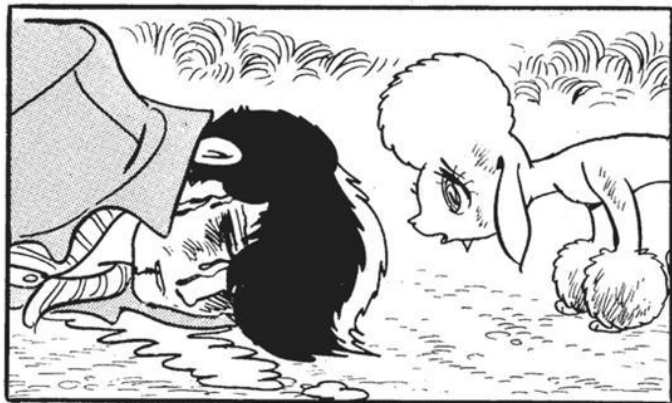
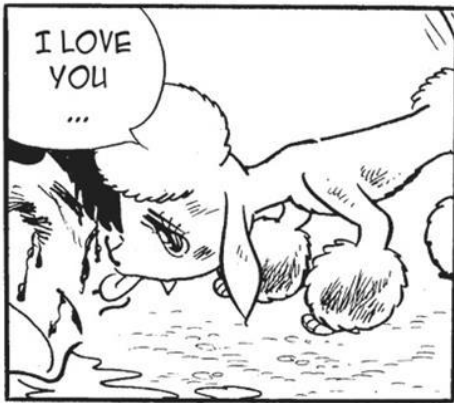








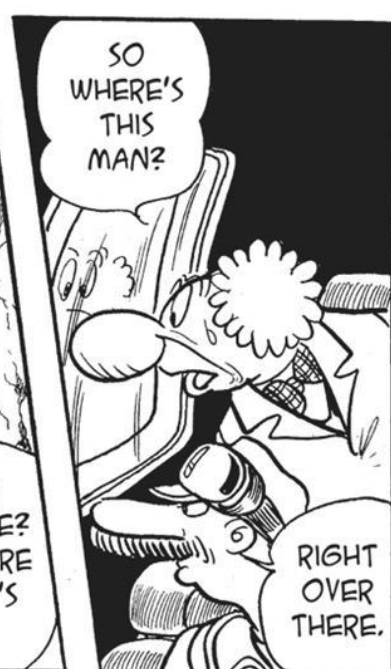
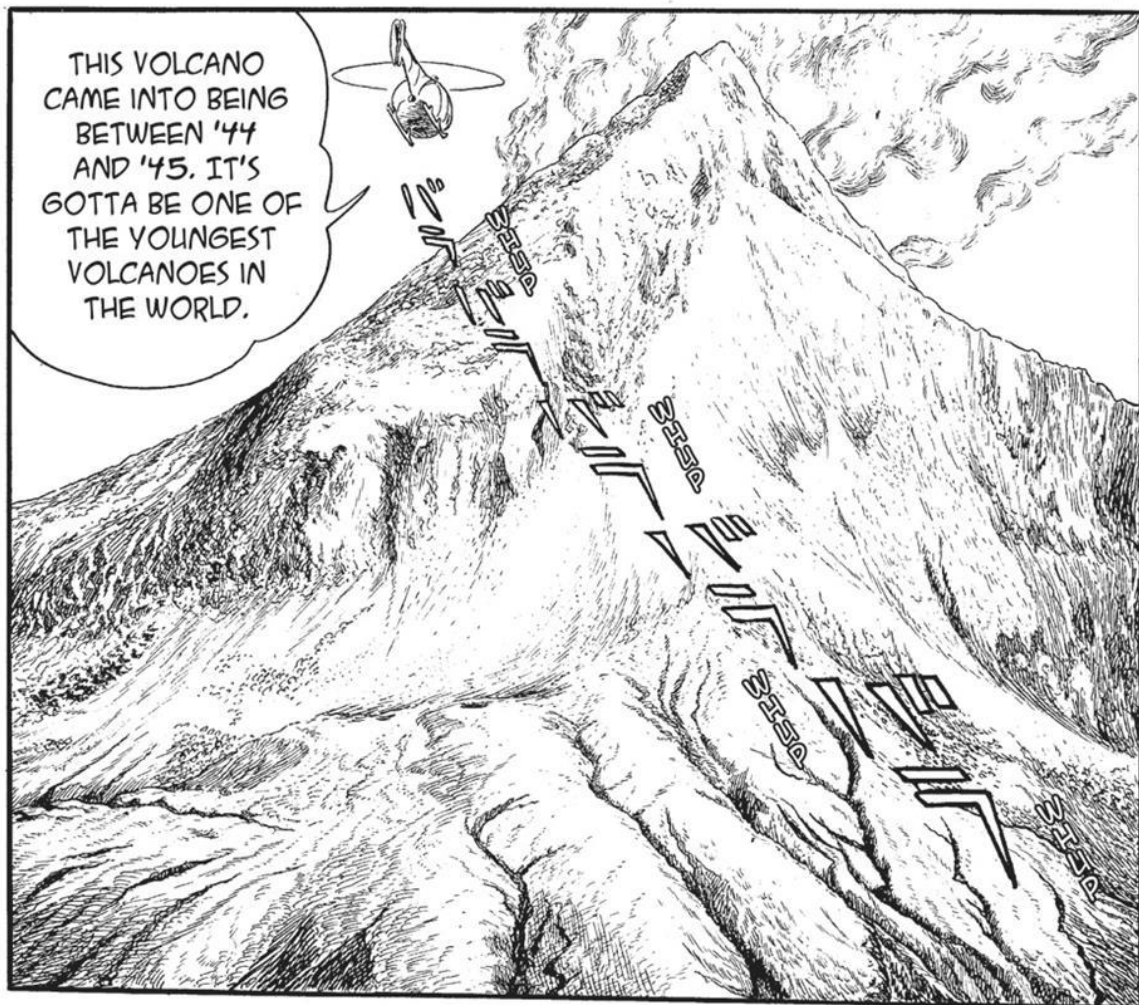


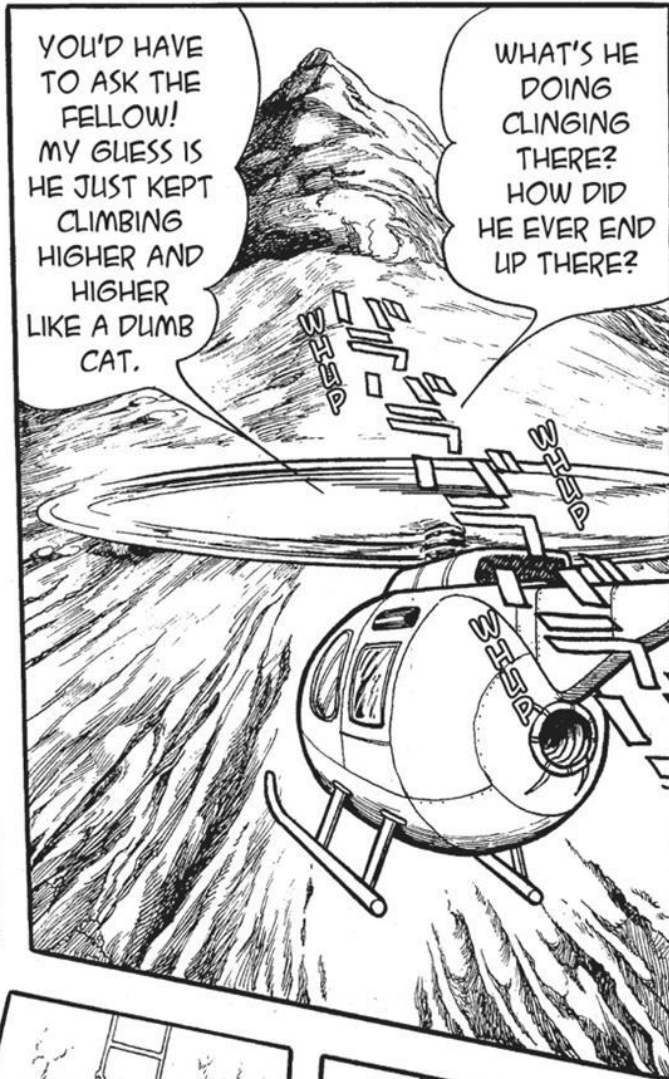
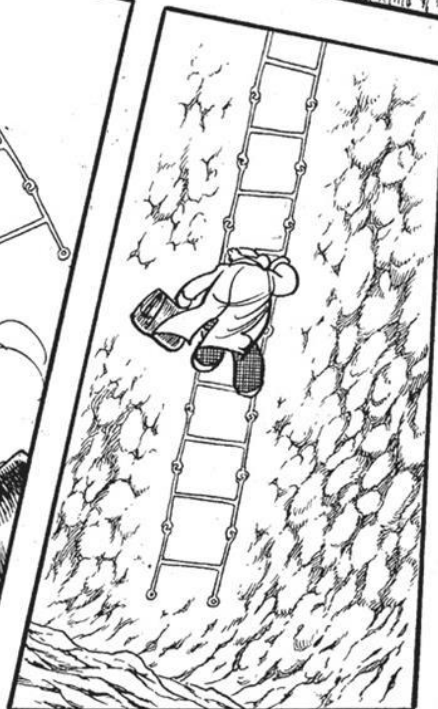
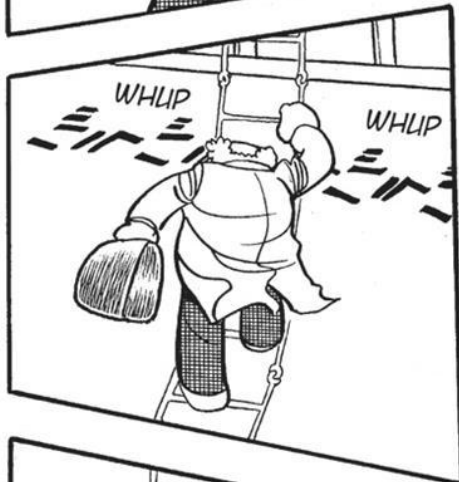
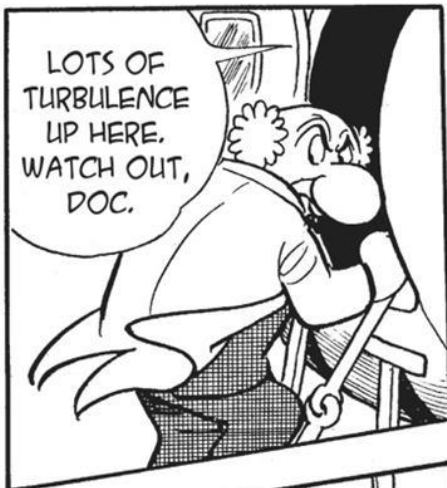


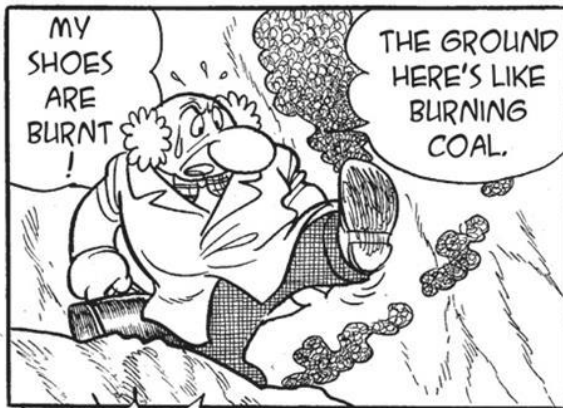
SHOWA SHINZAN



NOTE: THE MOUNTAIN THAT THE TITLE NAMES IS REAL. "SHOWA" REFERS TO THE REIGN OF EMPEROR HIROHITO AND CONNOTES A CONTEMPORARY ORIGIN; "SHINZAN" LITERALLY MEANS NEW MOUNTAIN.

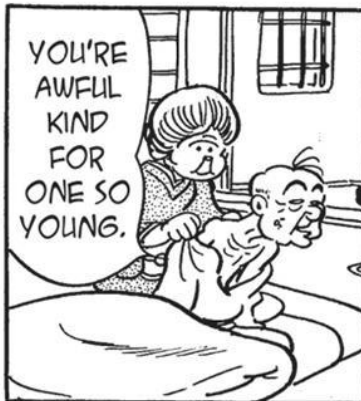
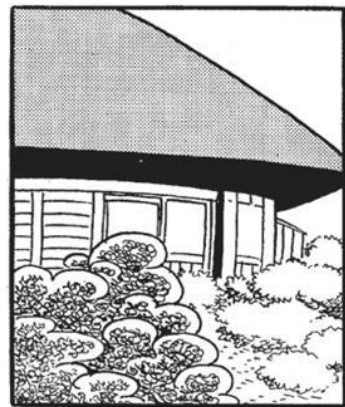




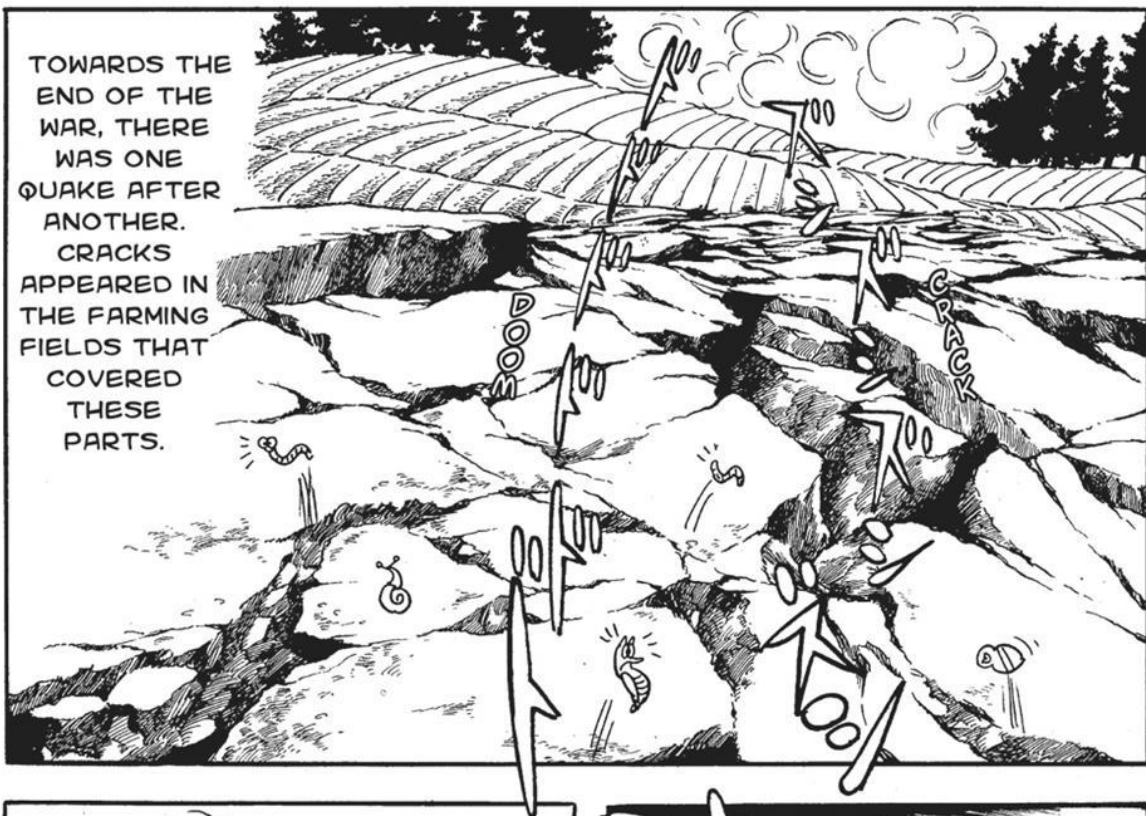




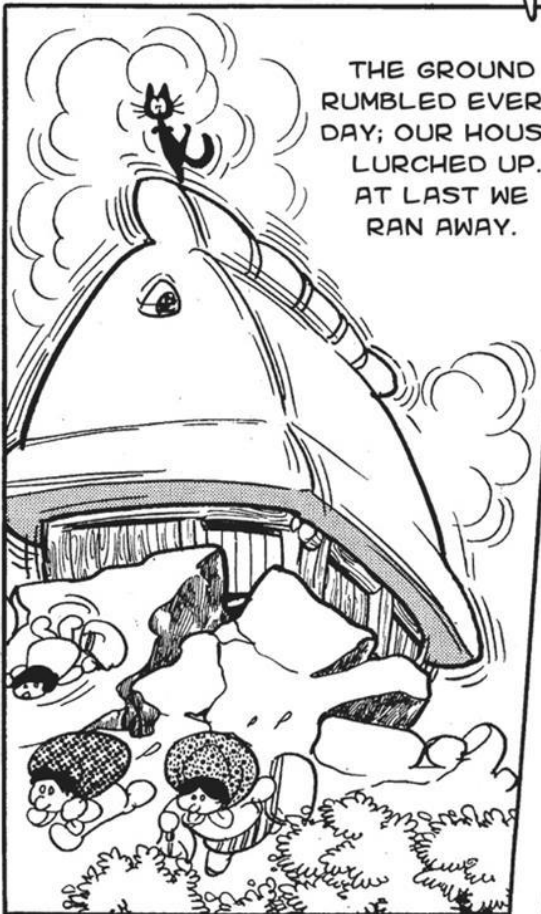




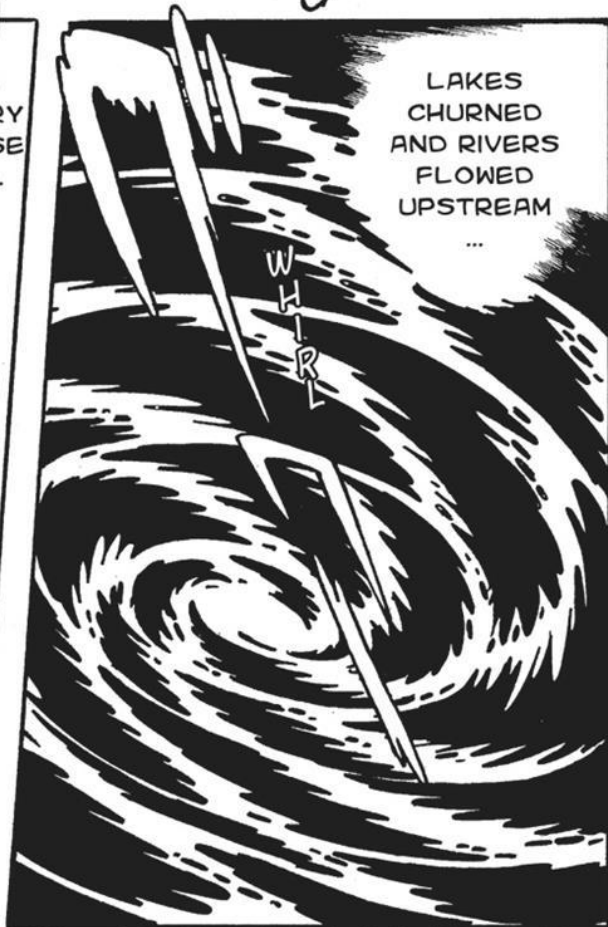
TOWARDS THE
END OF THE
WAR, THERE
WAS ONE
QUAKE AFTER
ANOTHER.
CRACKS
APPEARED IN
THE FARMING
FIELDS THAT
COVERED
THESE
PARTS.

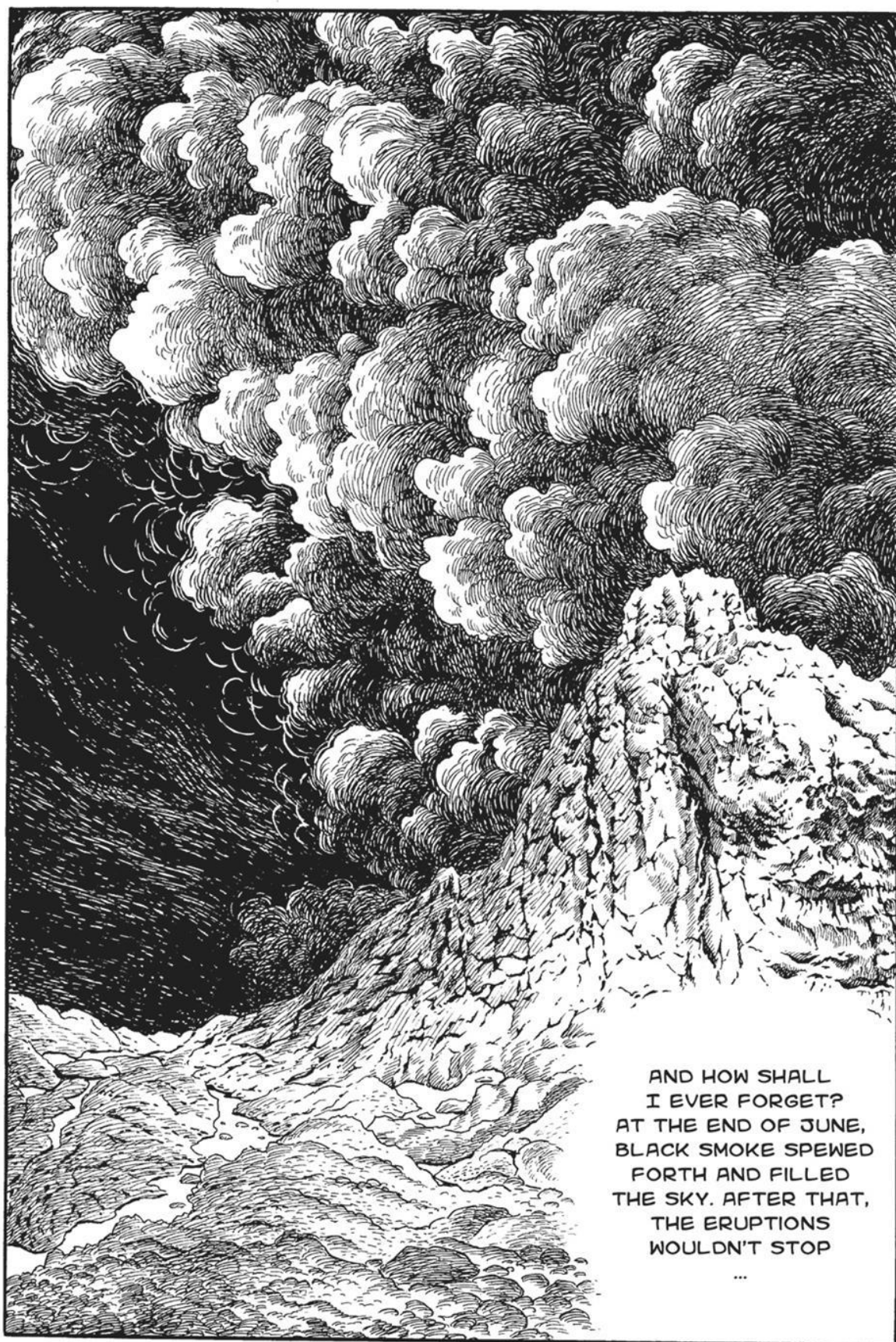


THE GROUND
RUMBLLED EVERY
DAY; OUR HOUSE
LURCHED UP.
AT LAST WE
RAN AWAY.



LAKES
CHURNED
AND RIVERS
FLOWED
UPSTREAM
...





AND HOW SHALL
I EVER FORGET?
AT THE END OF JUNE,
BLACK SMOKE SPEWED
FORTH AND FILLED
THE SKY. AFTER THAT,
THE ERUPTIONS
WOULDN'T STOP

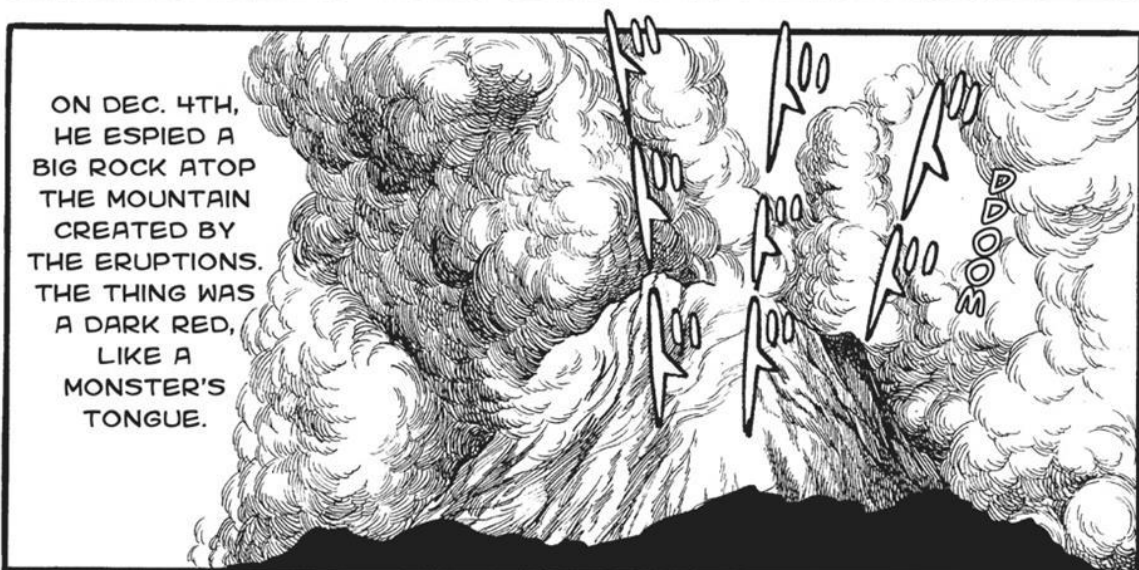
...



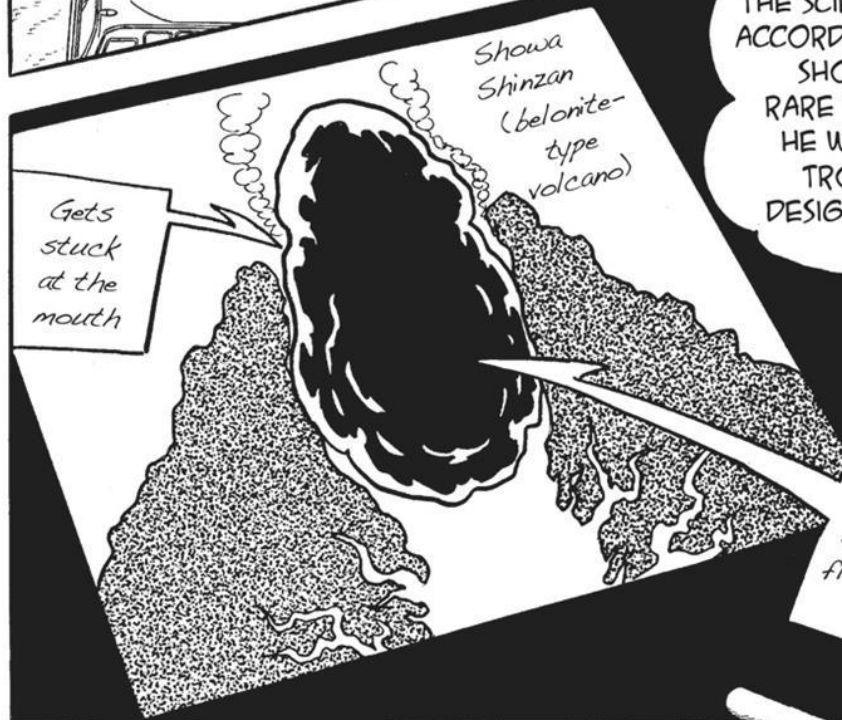
BUT WHILE
THE REST
OF US
PANICKED,
MR. MIMATSU,
THE TOWN'S
POSTMASTER
COOLLY
KEPT
RECORDS.



THEN IT
RAINED
ASHES.
GRAY FIELDS,
DEAD CROPS
AND FISH...

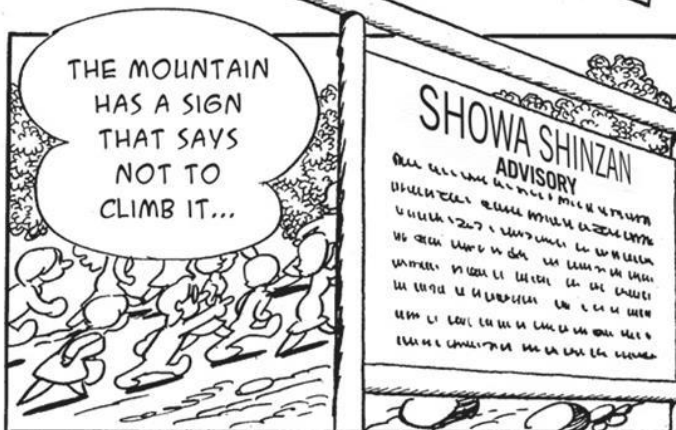


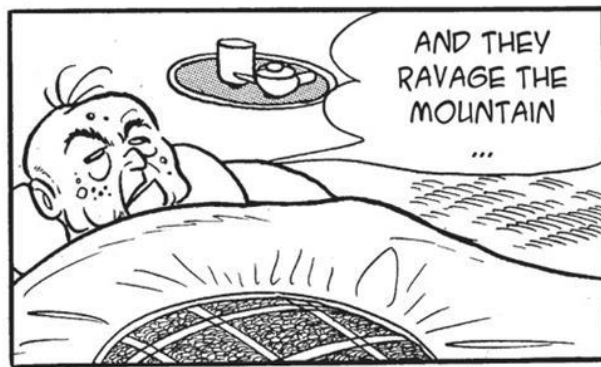
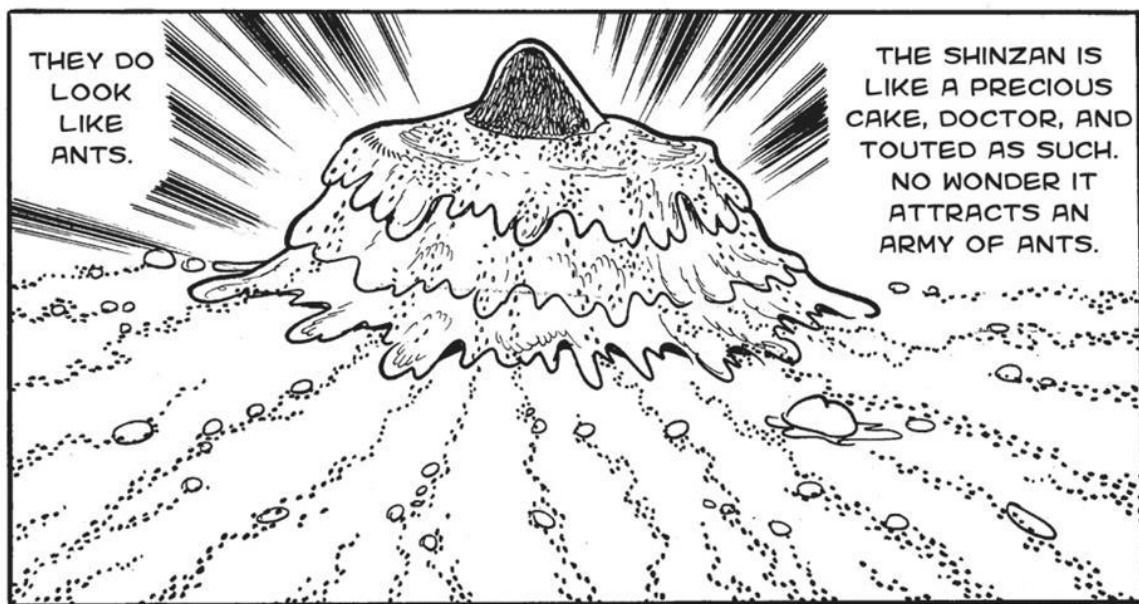
ON DEC. 4TH,
HE ESPIED A
BIG ROCK ATOP
THE MOUNTAIN
CREATED BY
THE ERUPTIONS.
THE THING WAS
A DARK RED,
LIKE A
MONSTER'S
TONGUE.

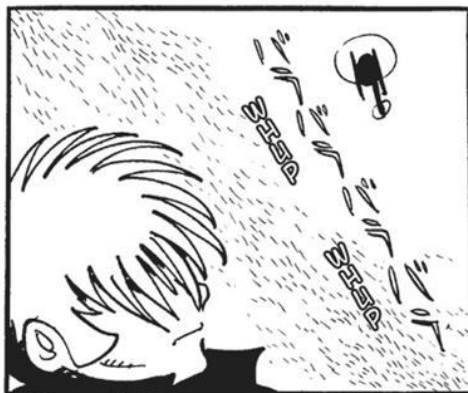
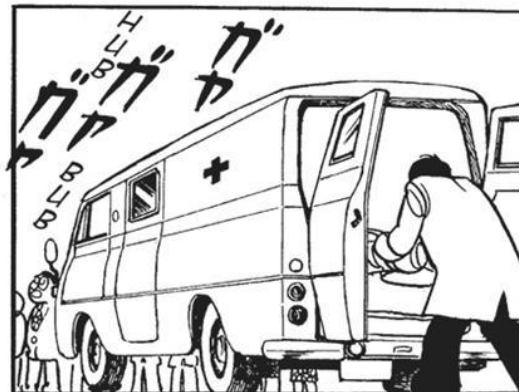


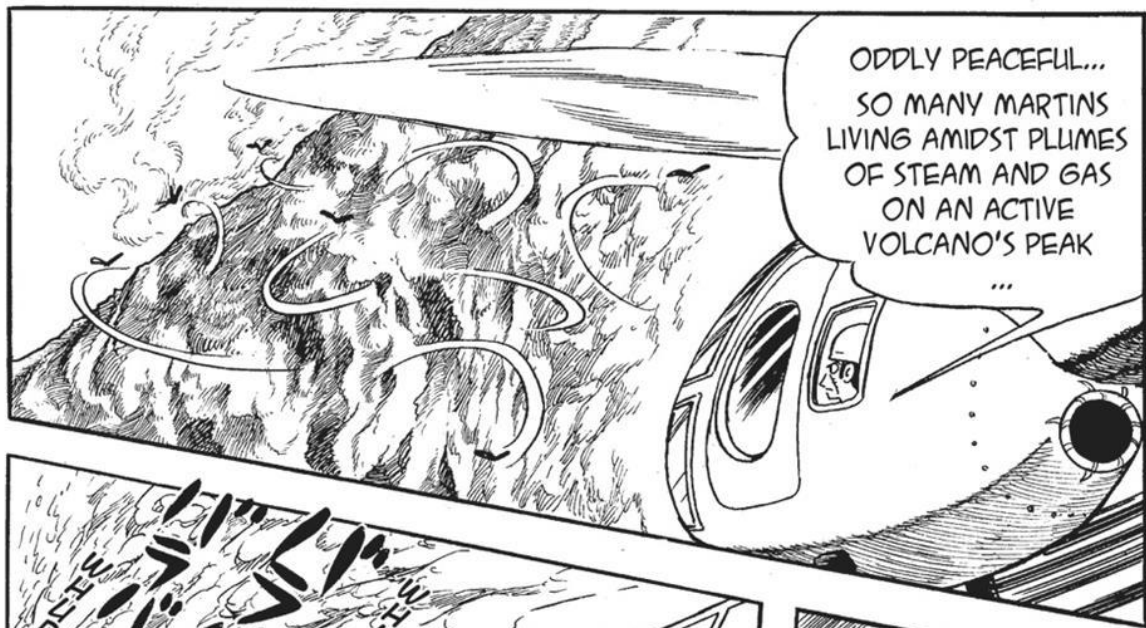
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE SCIENCE OF IT WELL, BUT ACCORDING TO MR. MIMATSU, SHOWA SHINZAN IS A RARE TYPE OF VOLCANO. HE WENT TO A LOT OF TROUBLE TO HAVE IT DESIGNATED A NATIONAL TREASURE.

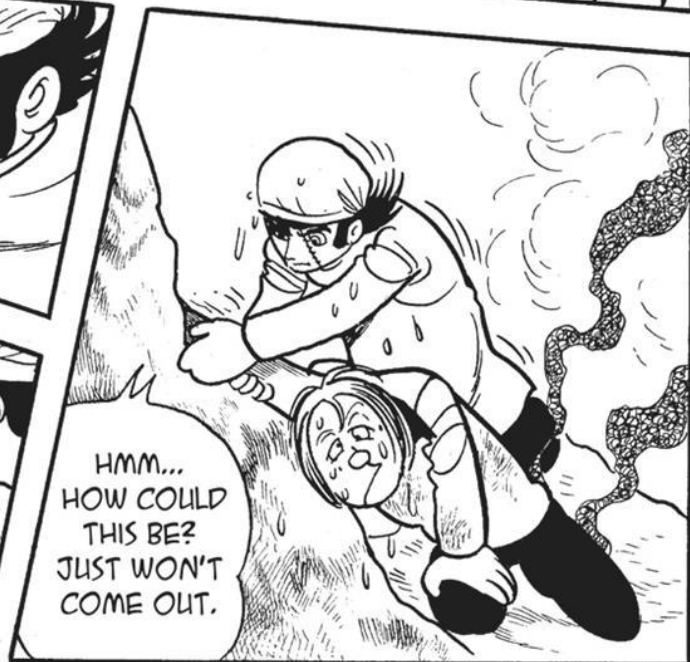
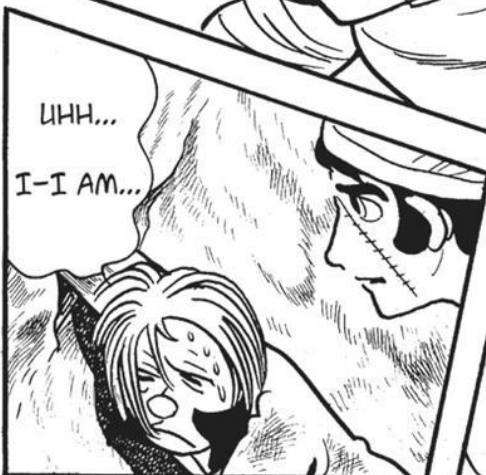
Due to its viscosity the lava solidifies instead of flowing out and, during eruptions, merely lifts up.

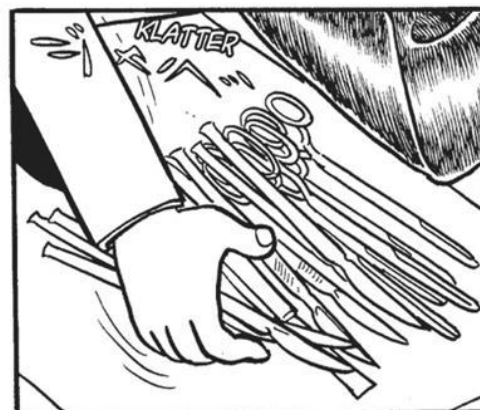
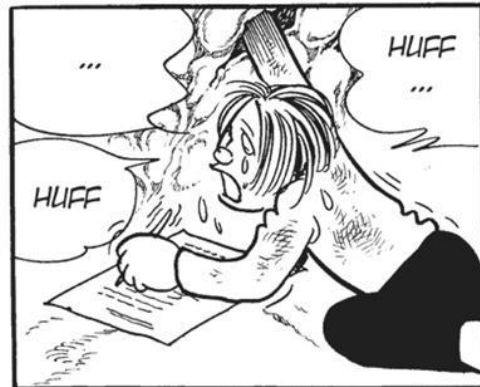
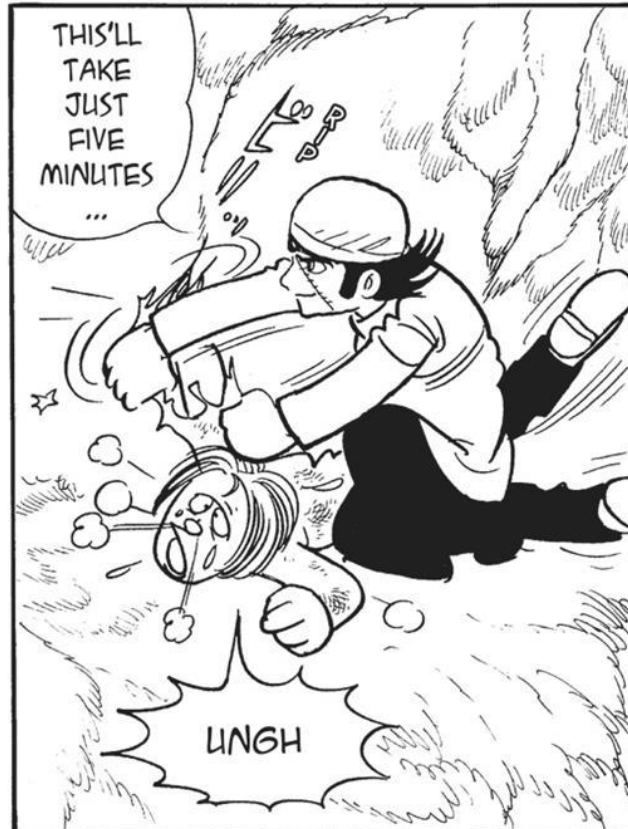
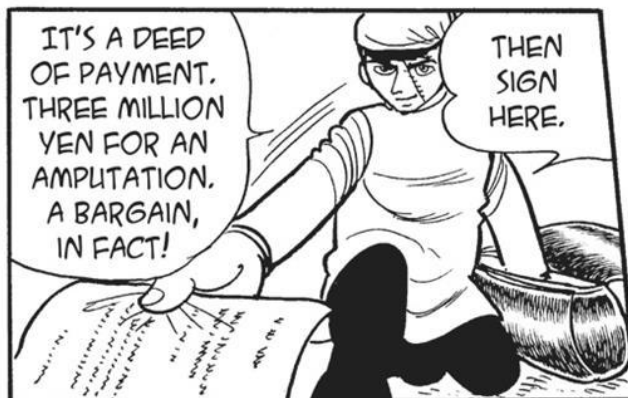
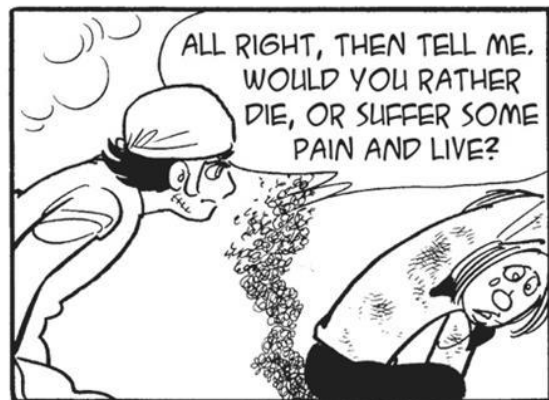




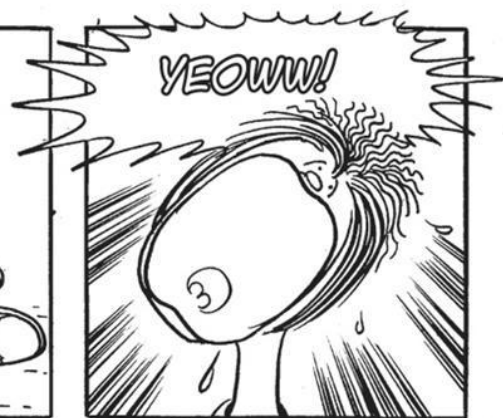
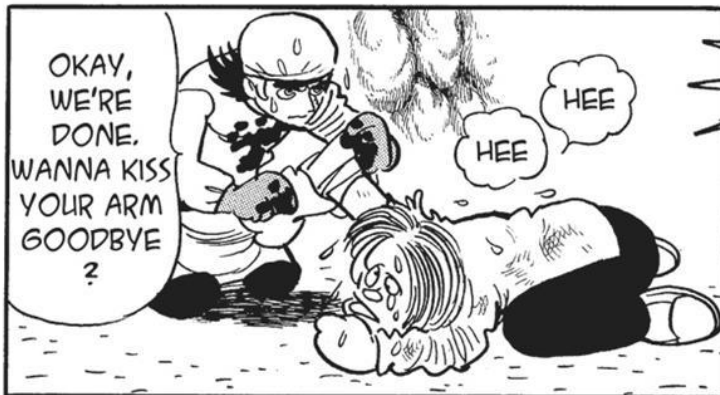
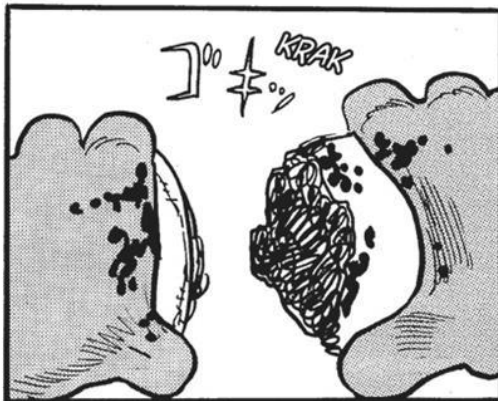
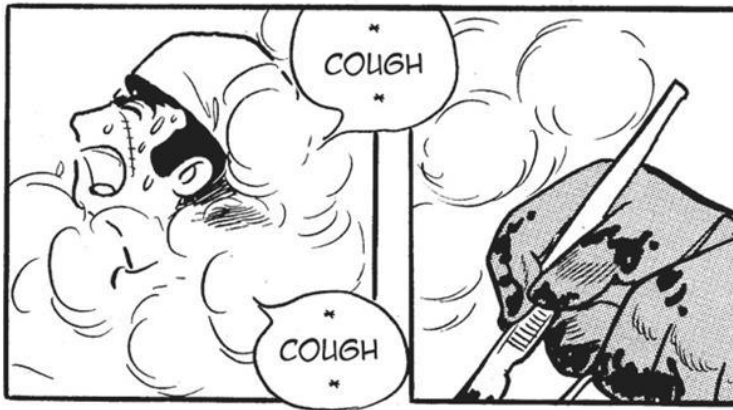


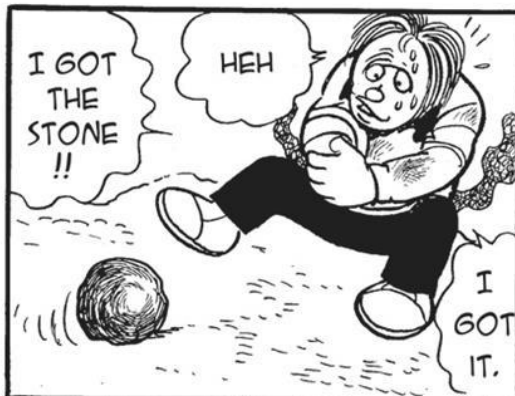


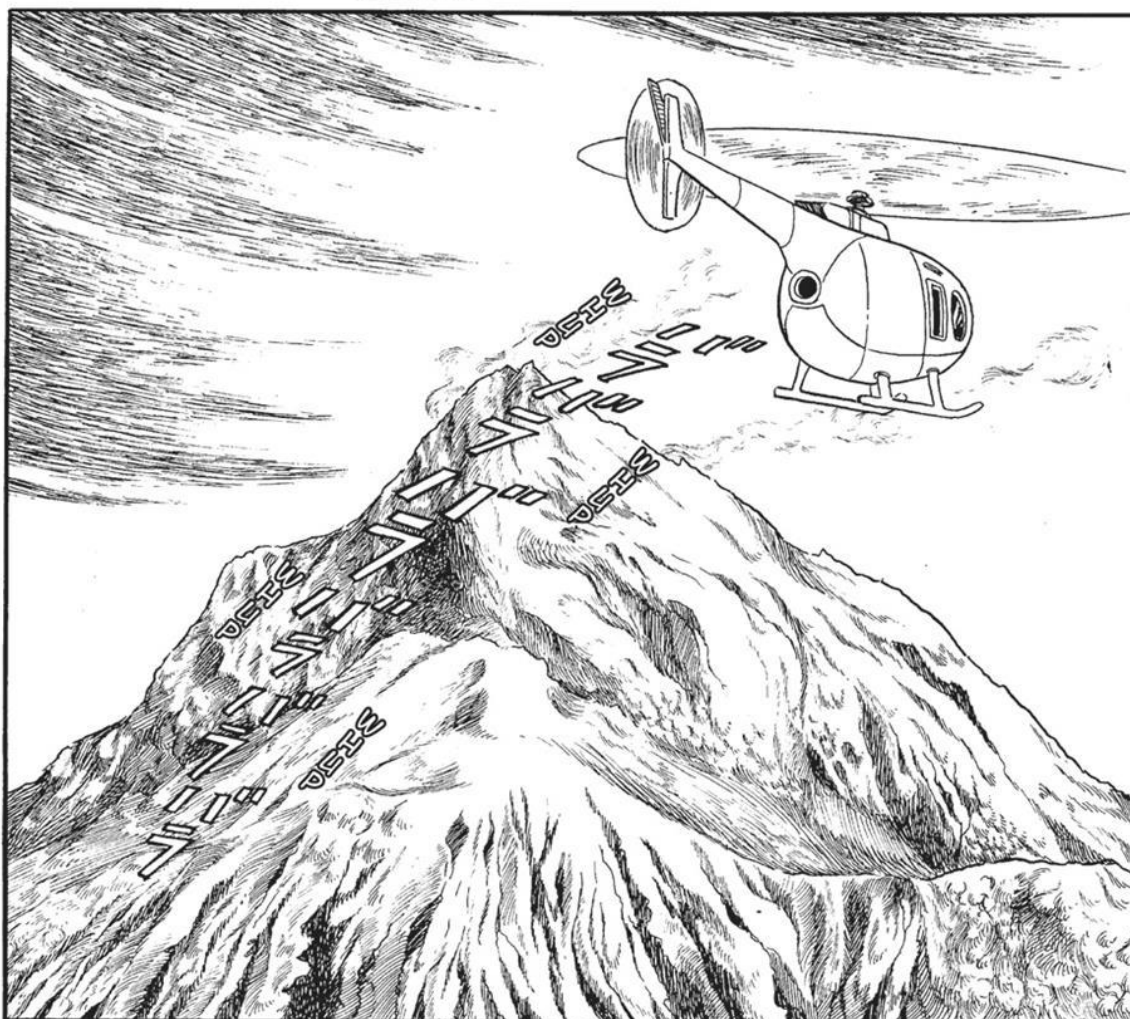




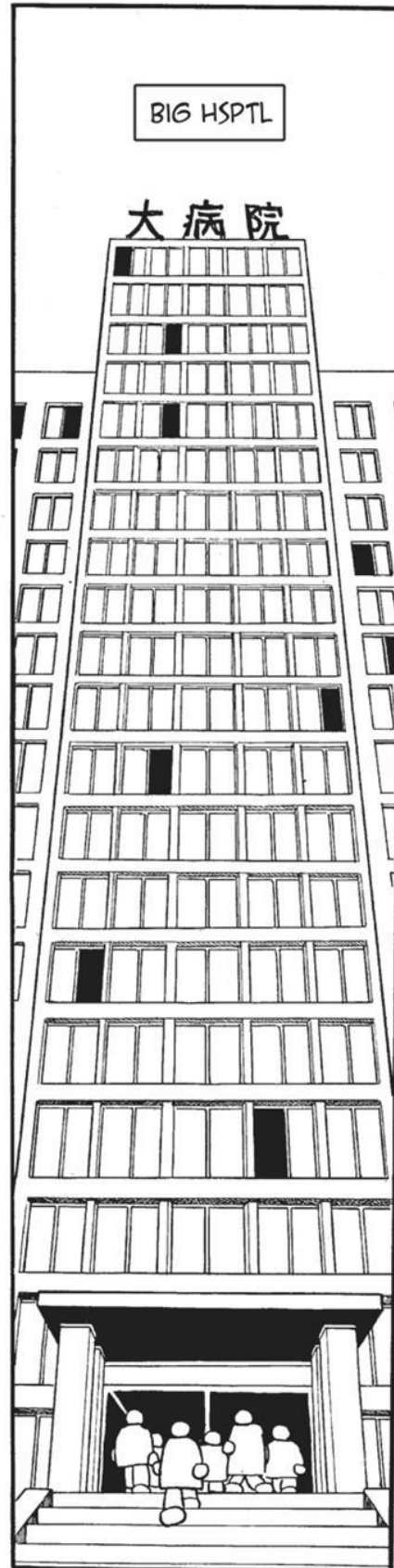
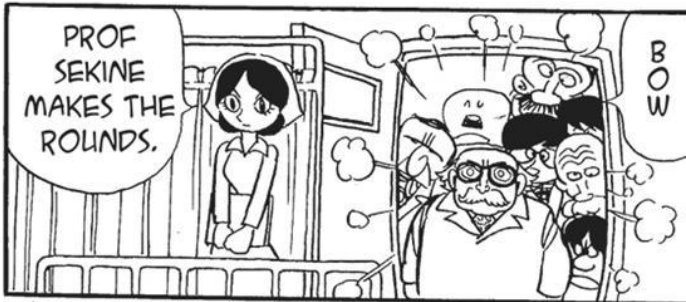


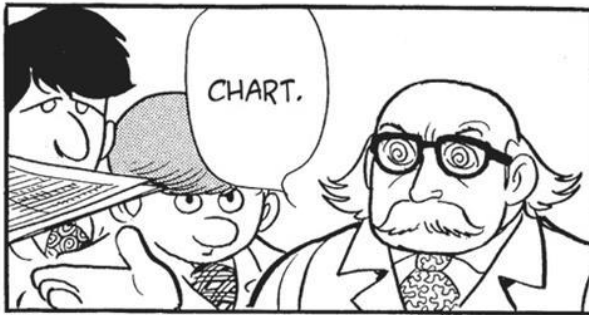


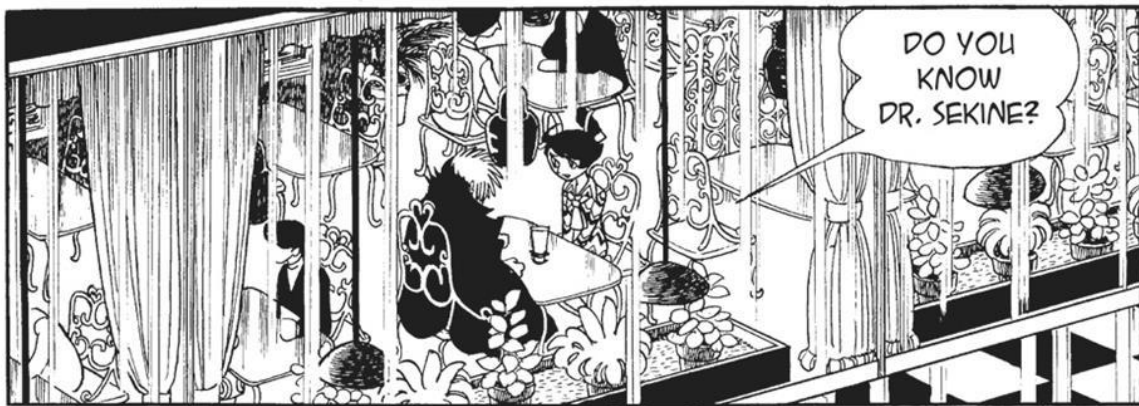




VISITOR IN THE SNOW







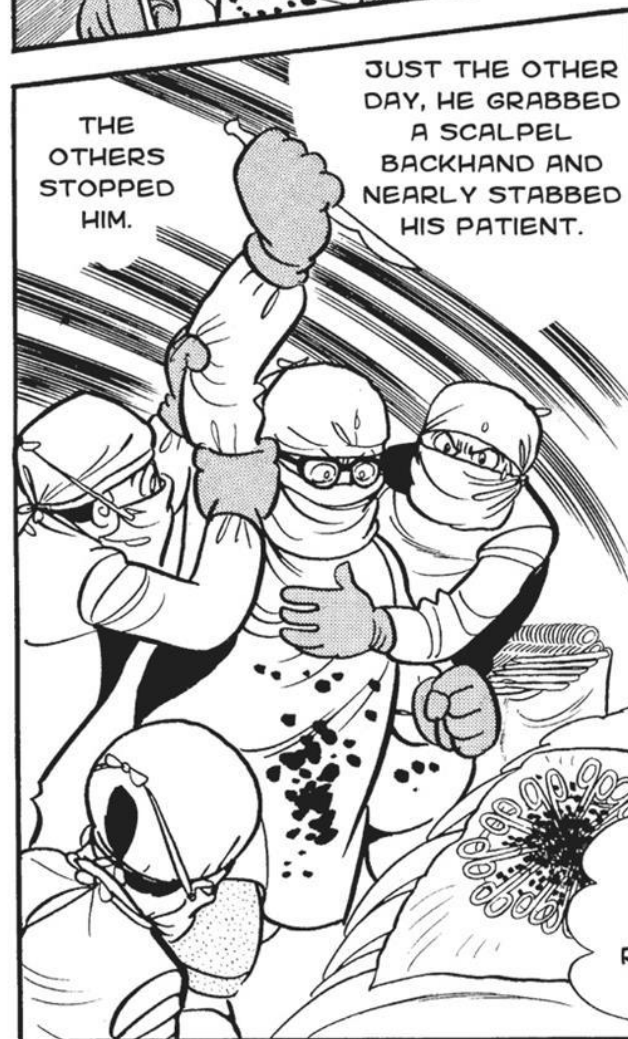


ONLY A HANDFUL
OF THE HOSPITAL
STAFF KNOWS. I HEAR
THEY'VE BEEN TOLD
TO KEEP MUM.



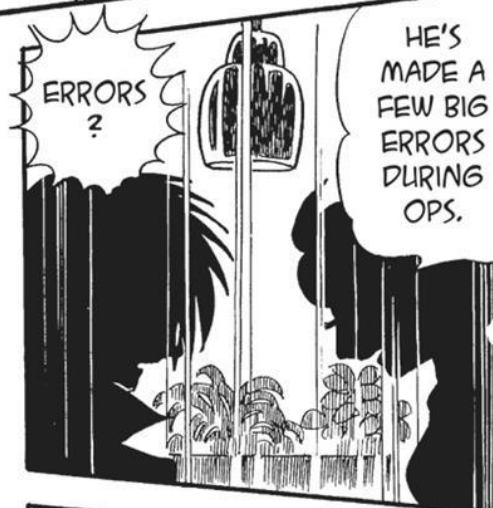
HIS REPLIES
DON'T MAKE
SENSE,
AND HE'S
ALOOF.

IT SEEMS
DR. SEKINE IS
ACTING STRANGE
THESE DAYS.



THE
OTHERS
STOPPED
HIM.

JUST THE OTHER
DAY, HE GRABBED
A SCALPEL
BACKHAND AND
NEARLY STABBED
HIS PATIENT.



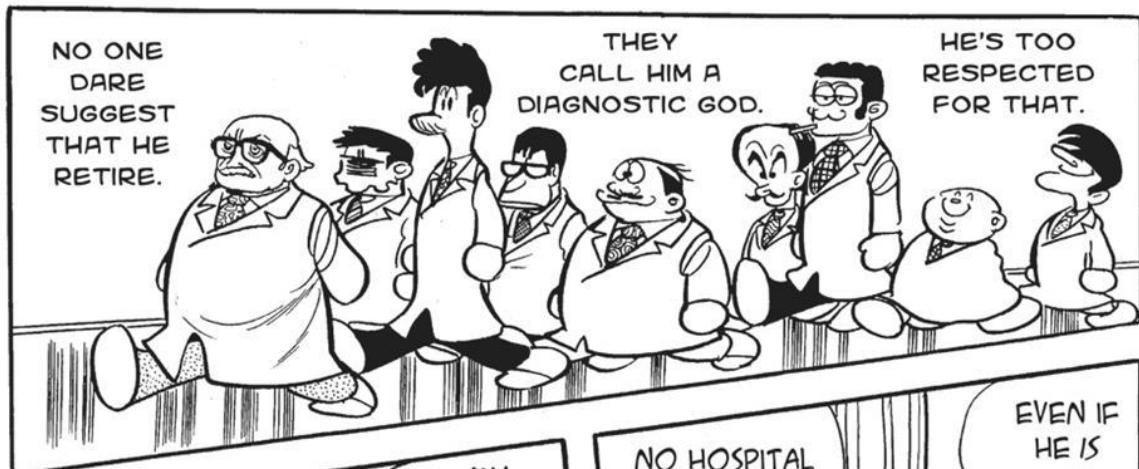
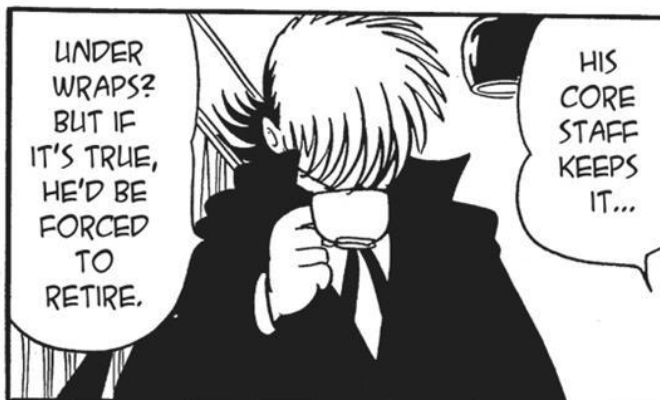
ERRORS
?

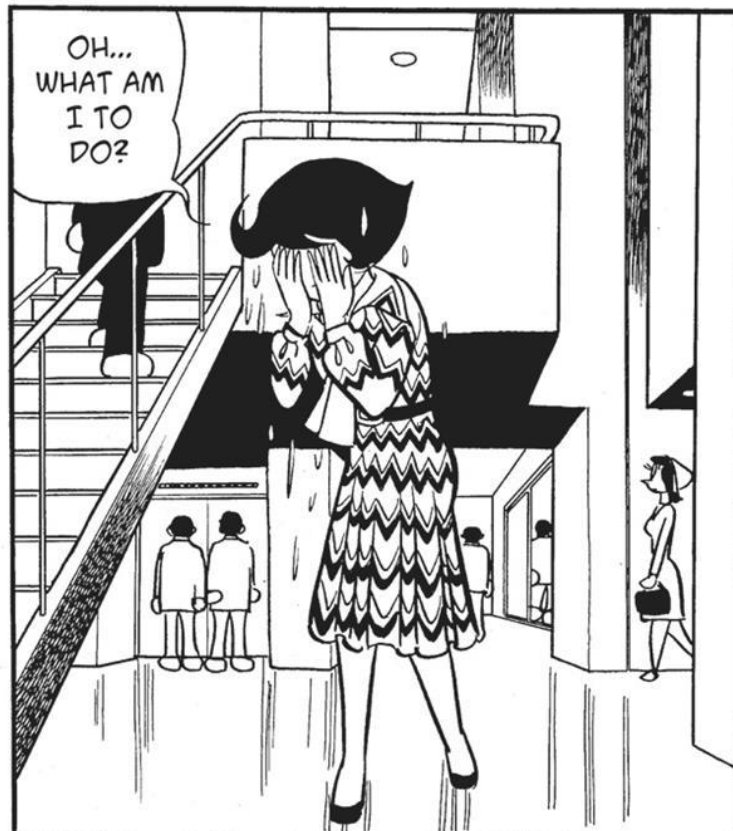
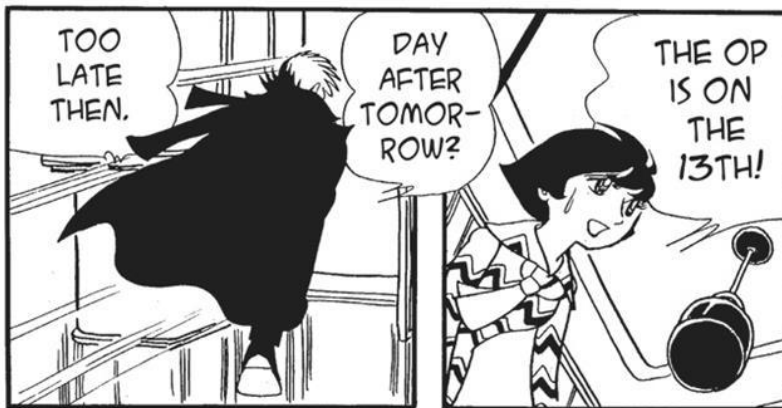
HE'S
MADE A
FEW BIG
ERRORS
DURING
OPS.



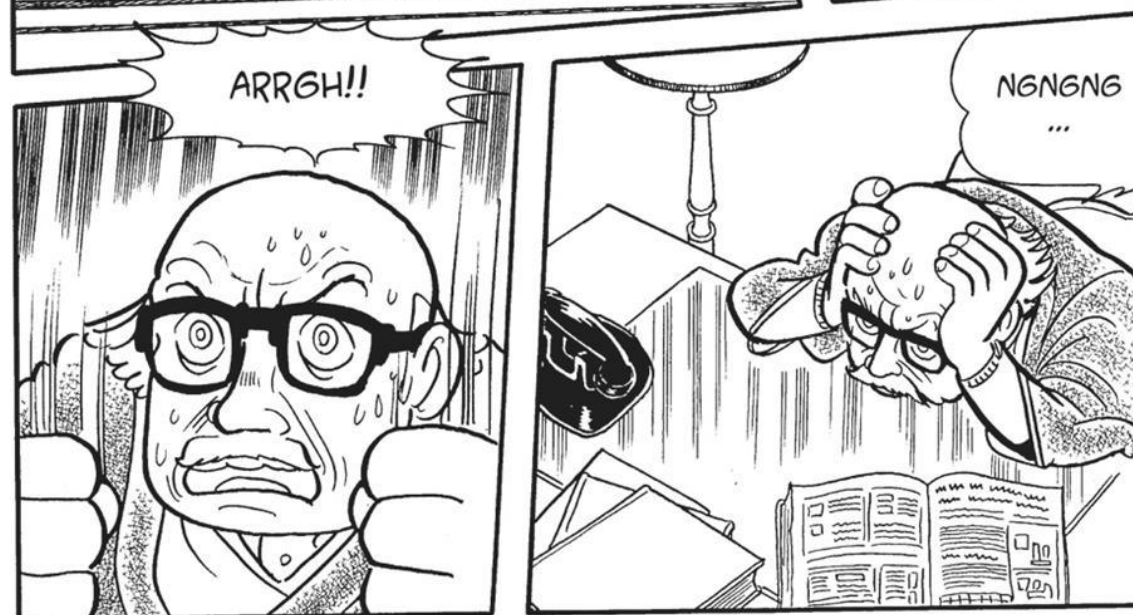
YES, LIKE
FORGETTING TO
ASK FOR A SUTURE
OR INCISING AT THE
WRONG SPOT.

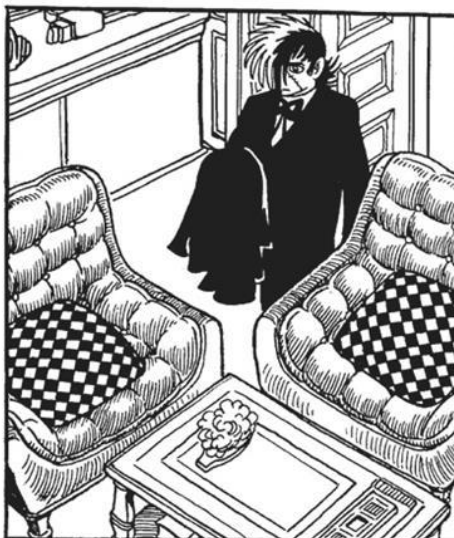
EACH TIME,
HIS COHORT OF
ASSISTANTS
RUSHED TO PATCH
THINGS UP.

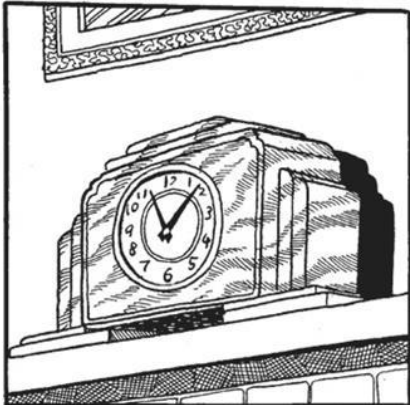
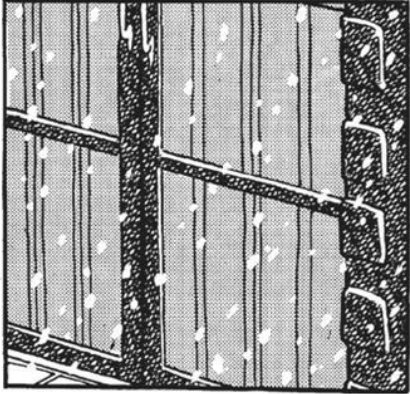


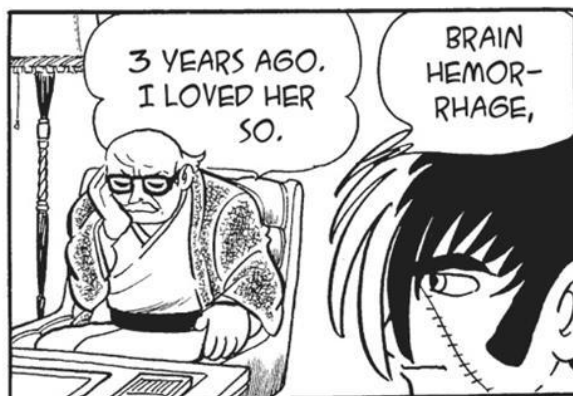






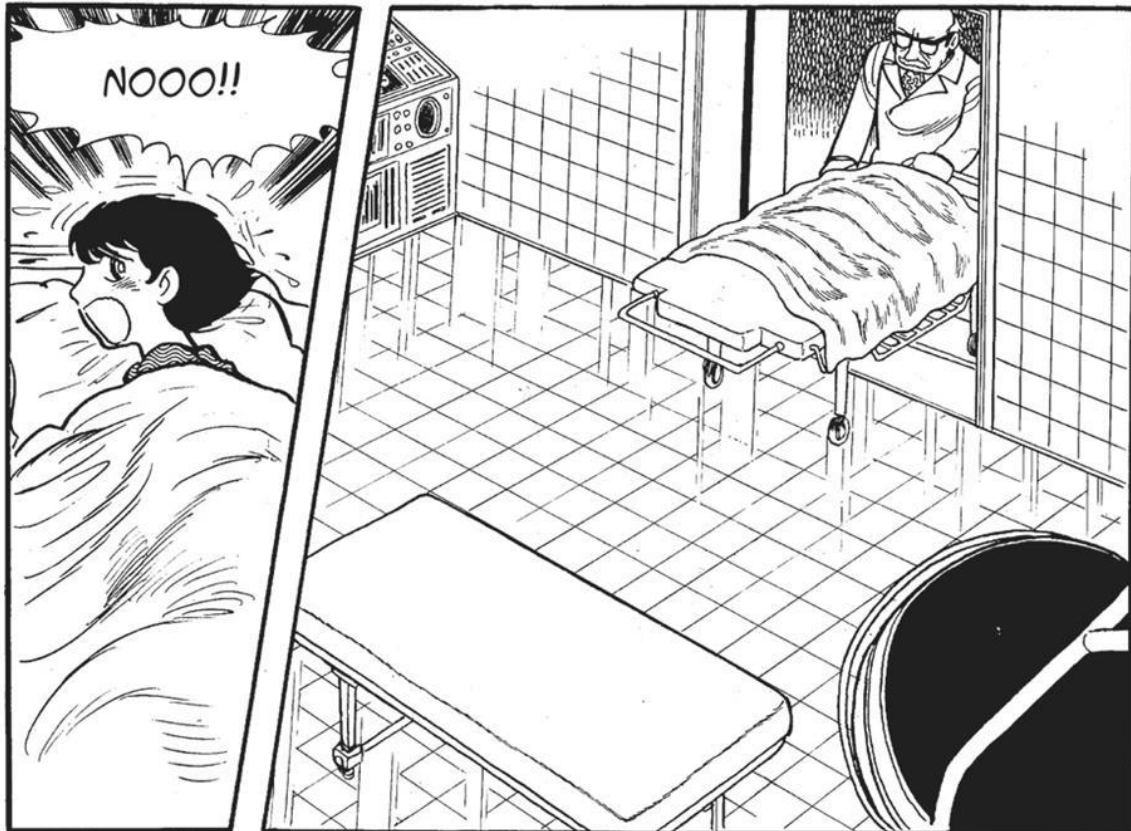
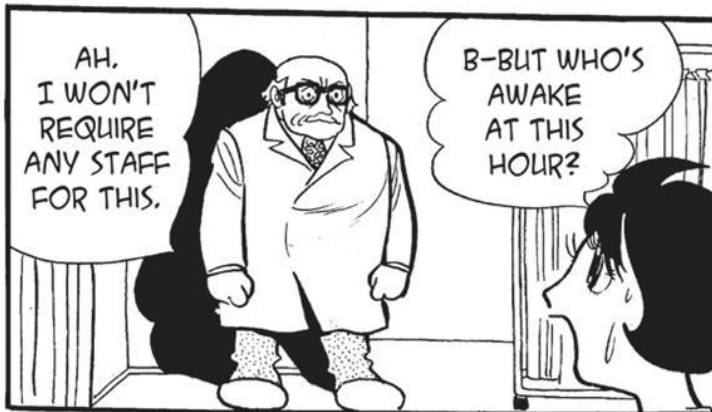




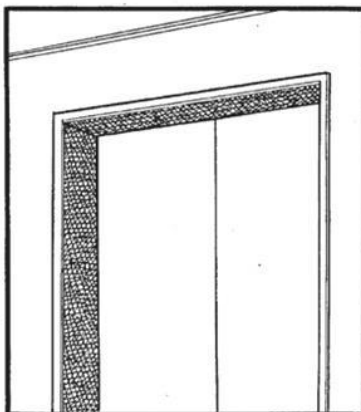


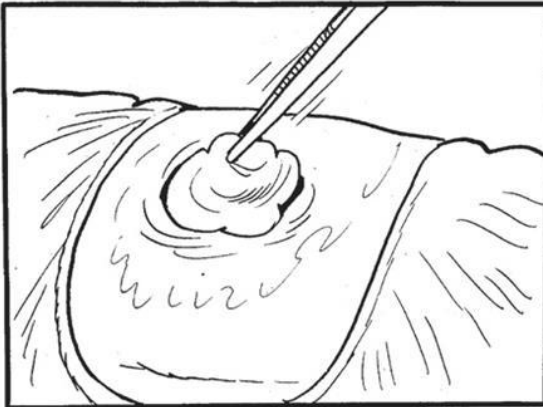


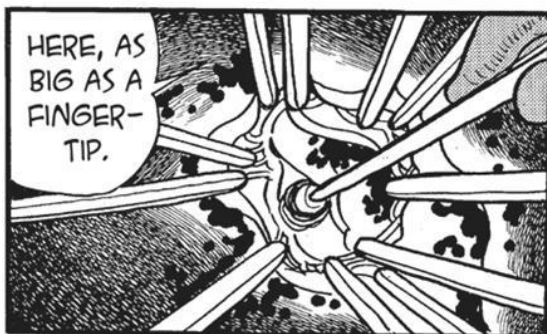
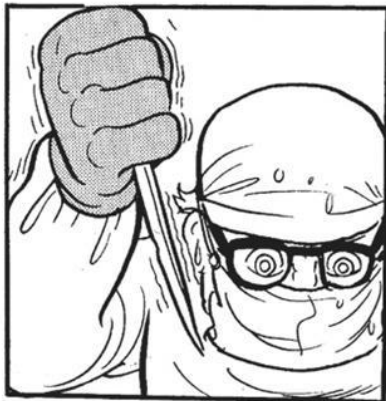












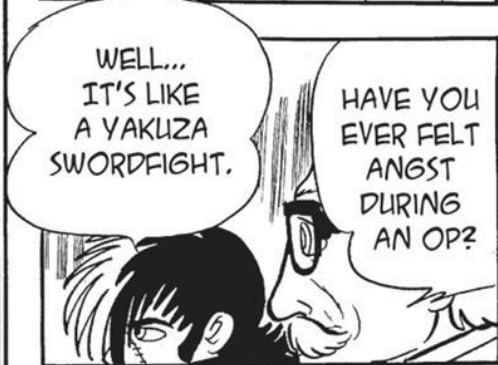


AH, THE
SNOW IS
GONE
WITHOUT
A TRACE.



THAT
WAS A
GREAT
OP.

NO...
THANKS TO
YOU, MY
MIND HAS
CLEARED.



WELL...
IT'S LIKE
A YAKUZA
SWORDFIGHT.

HAVE YOU
EVER FELT
ANGST
DURING
AN OP?



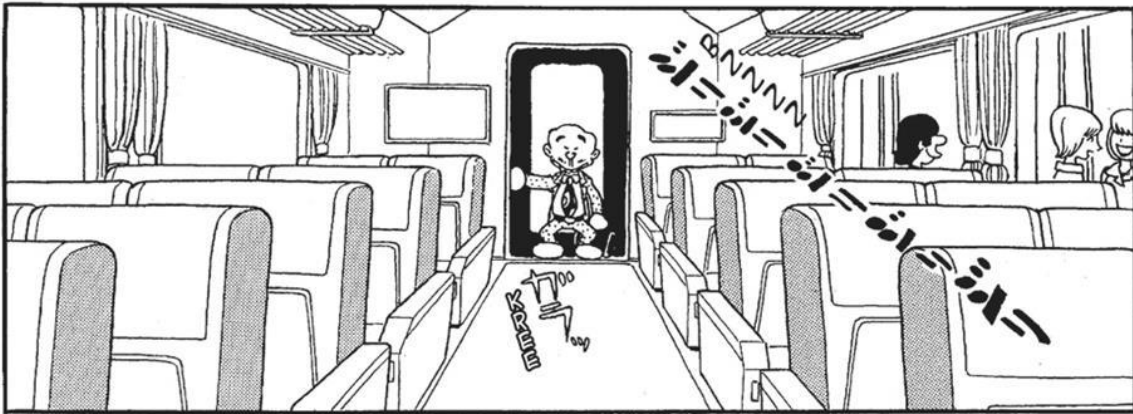
I SLASH
WITHOUT A
THOUGHT. NO
TIME FOR
ANGST.

HUH?

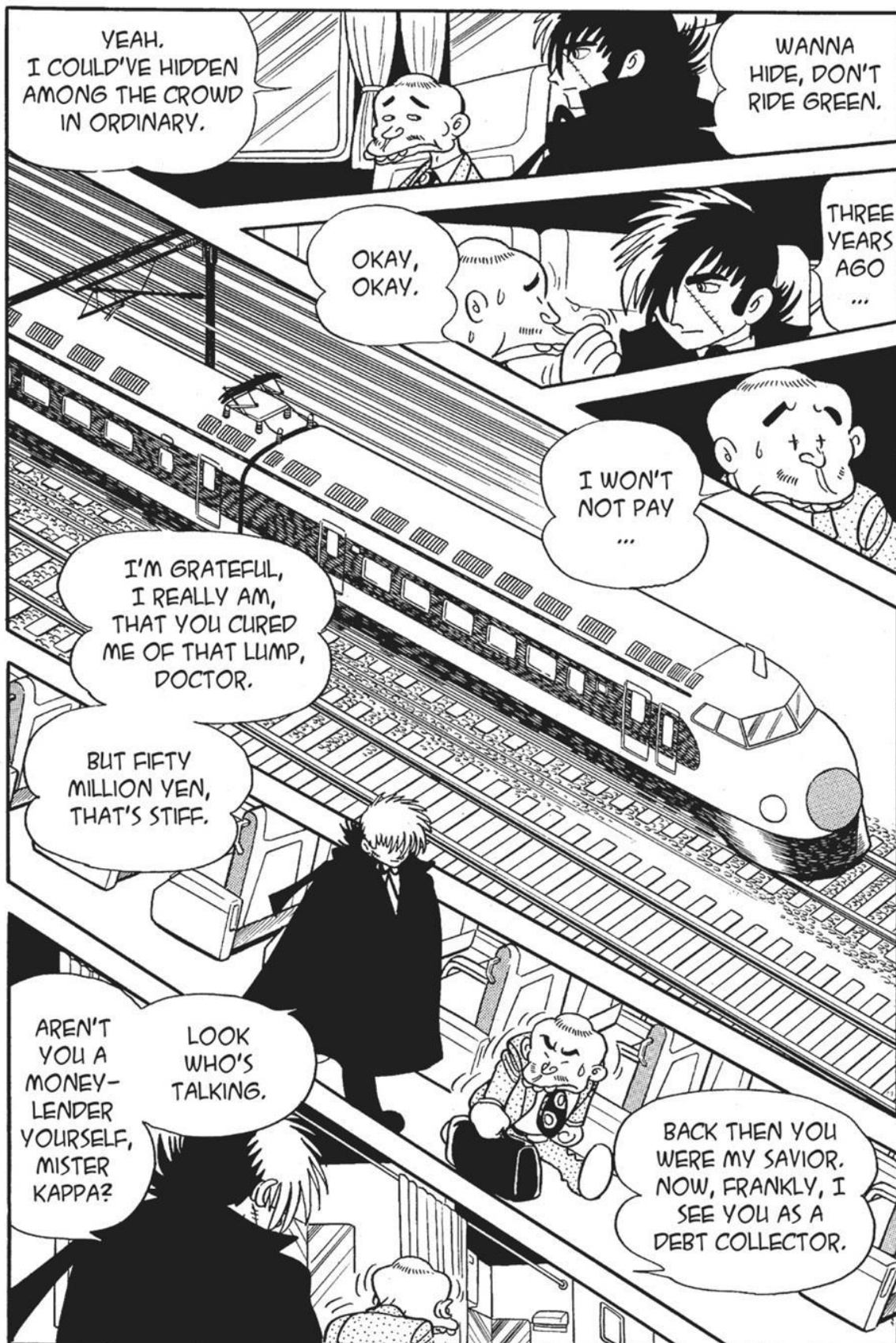


HA HA.
I'D LIKE
TO BE
MORE
LIKE YOU.

GRASPING DUO

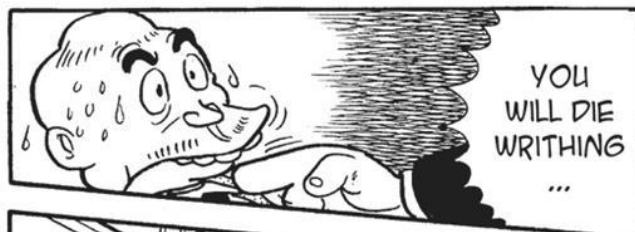


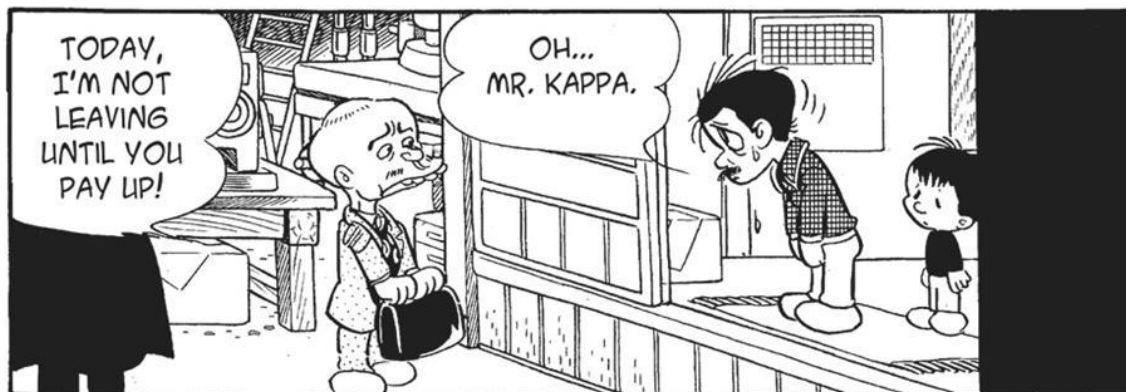
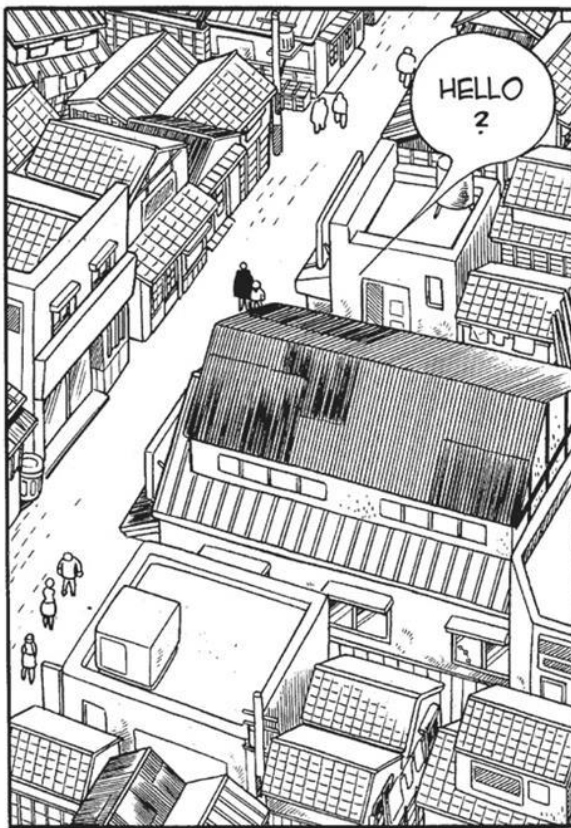
NOTE: GREEN CAR = FIRST CLASS (NO ECOLOGICAL CONNOTATION)

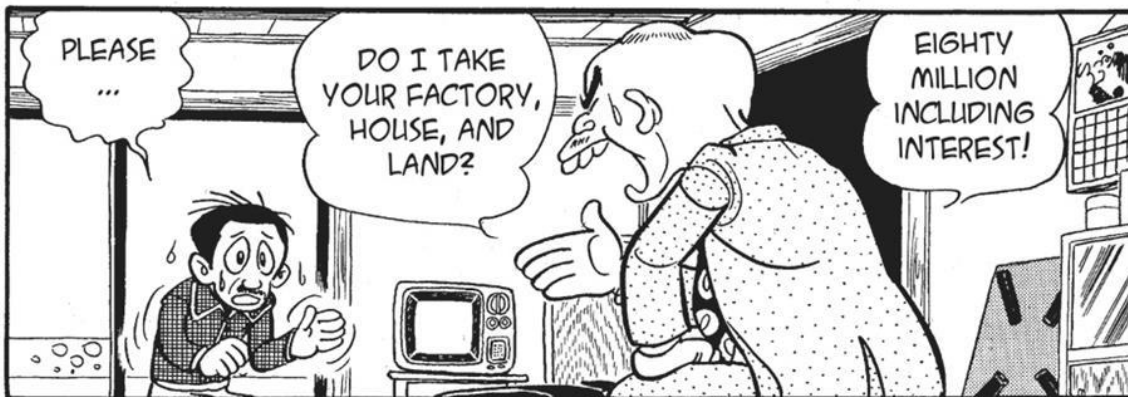


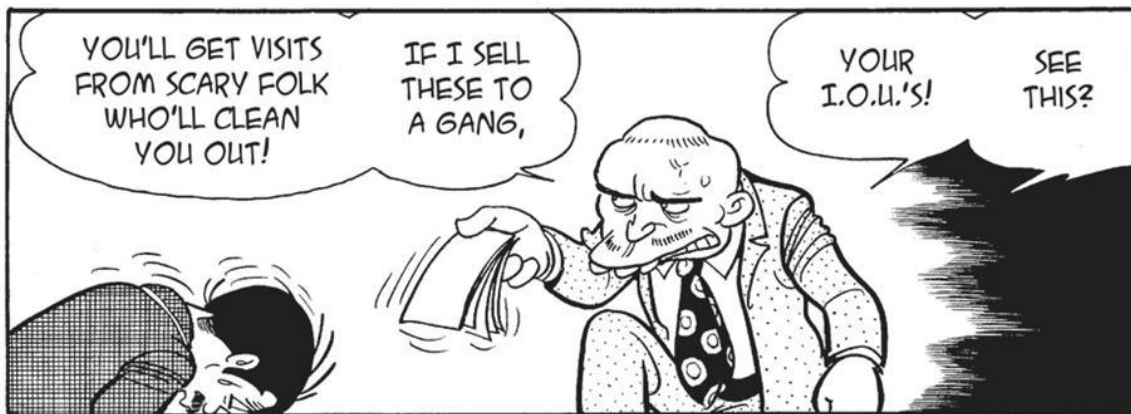
NOTE: THOUGH SPELLED HERE WITH PLAUSIBLE CHARACTERS AS A SURNAME, "KAPPA" IS A RIVER GOBLIN WHOSE TRADEMARK BOWL-LIKE HEADGEAR RESEMBLES THE MAN'S FUNNY-SHAPED HEAD.

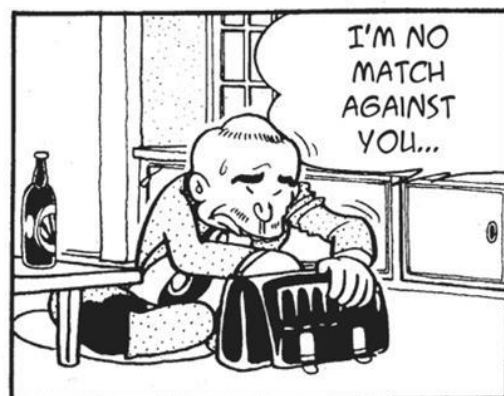
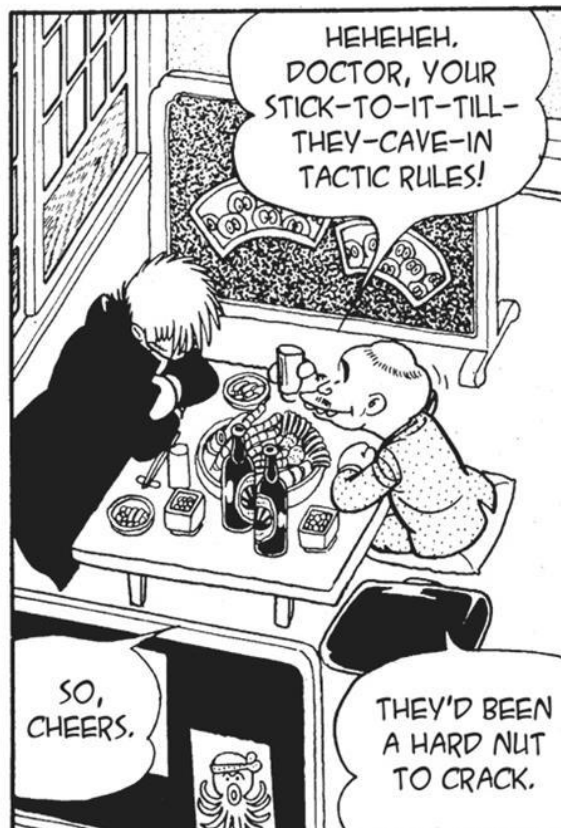


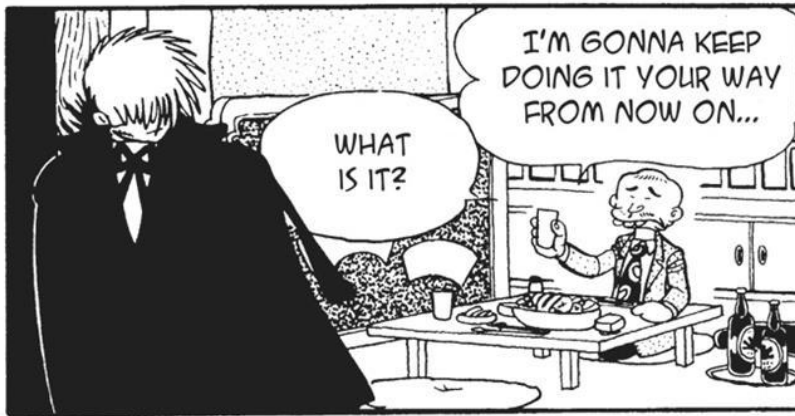






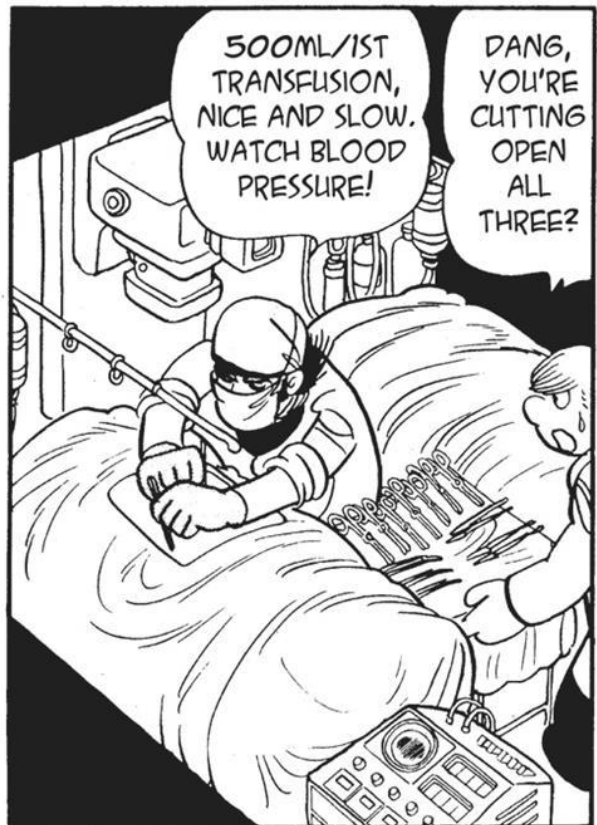


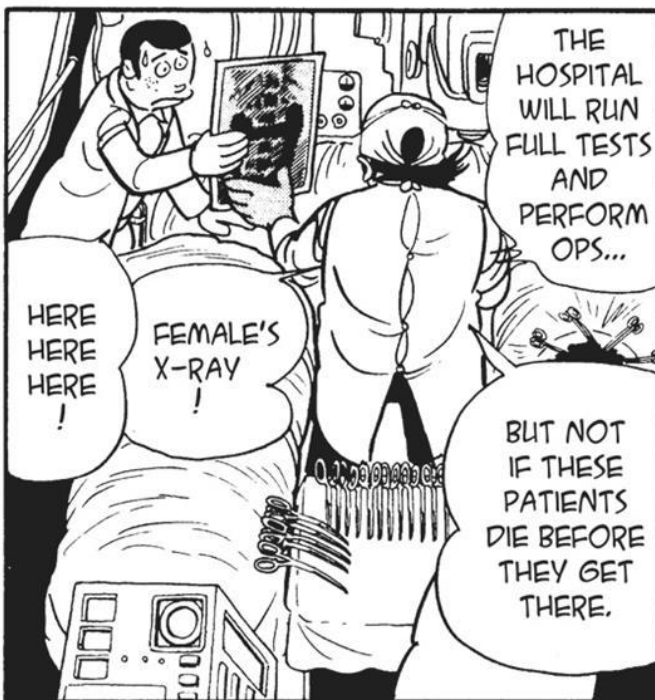
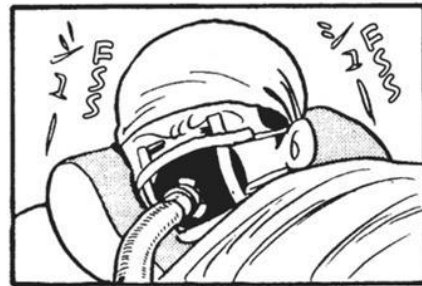


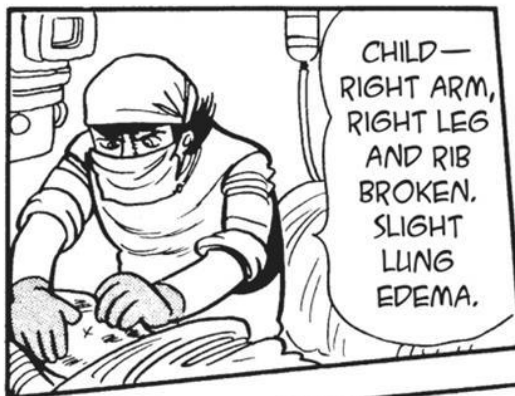












CHILD—
RIGHT ARM,
RIGHT LEG
AND RIB
BROKEN.
SLIGHT
LUNG
EDEMA.



TORSO OK!
COMA AND
JACKSONIAN
SPASMS
POINT TO
CEREBRAL
TRAUMA.



WAIT,
YOU'RE
DONE?

THE OTHER
TWO NEED
NEW X-RAYS
AT THE
HOSPITAL.

THE
HUSBAND
IS WORST,
BUT THE
BLEEDING'S
STOPPED.



IN FIVE
MINUTES?

HE DID
AN OP
?

A
L
R
E
A
D
Y
?



NOW
THEY
WON'T
DIE ON
YOU.

I
A
M
!



LET ME
GET OFF.



GET
OFF?
WHY
?

NOT
COMING
WITH US?

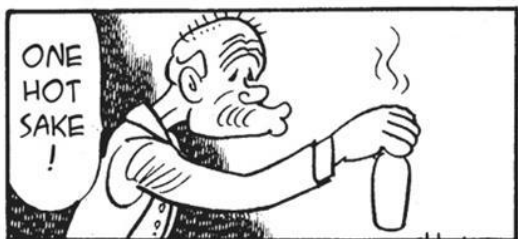
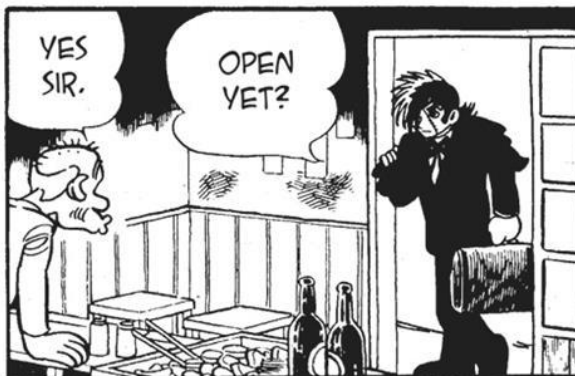
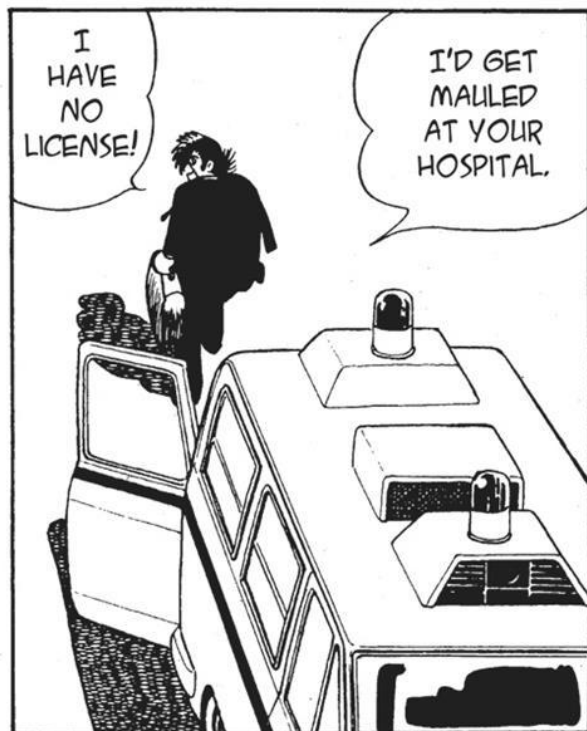
UH
...

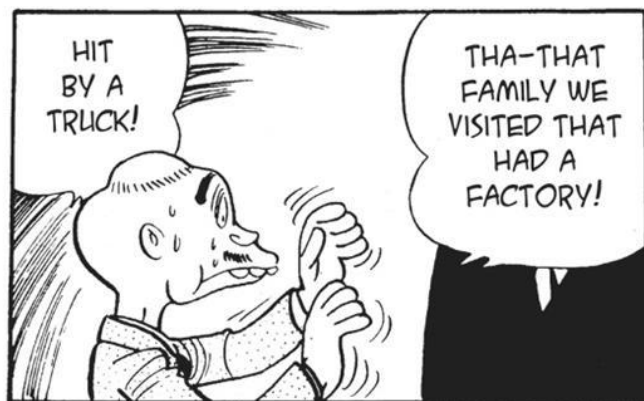


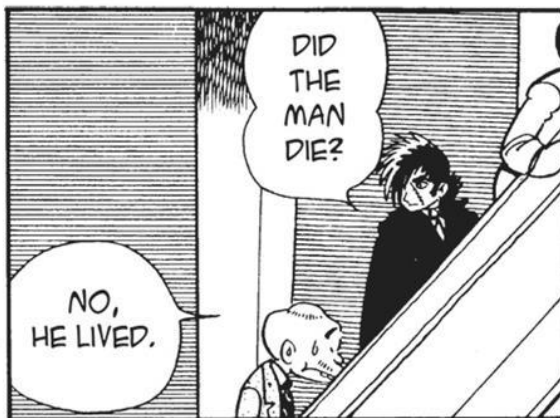
IT
WILL
DO.

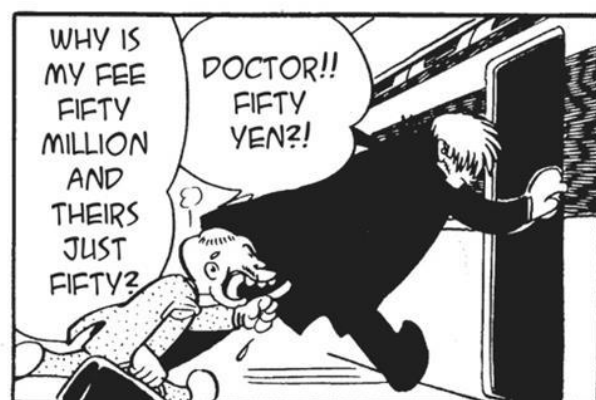
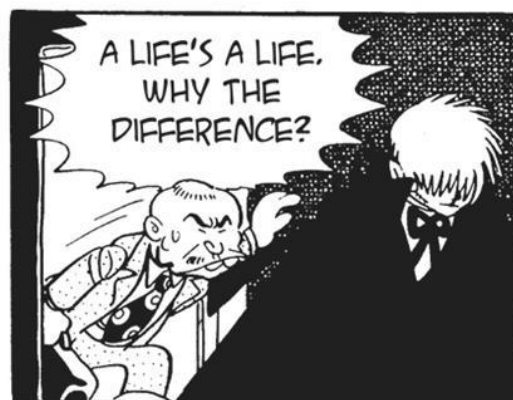
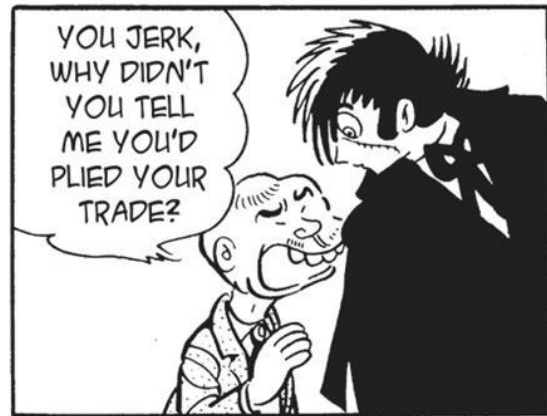
I FIXED
THE INTESTINES,
MESENTERY,
AND ARTERIES.
THE BROKEN
RIB TOO.

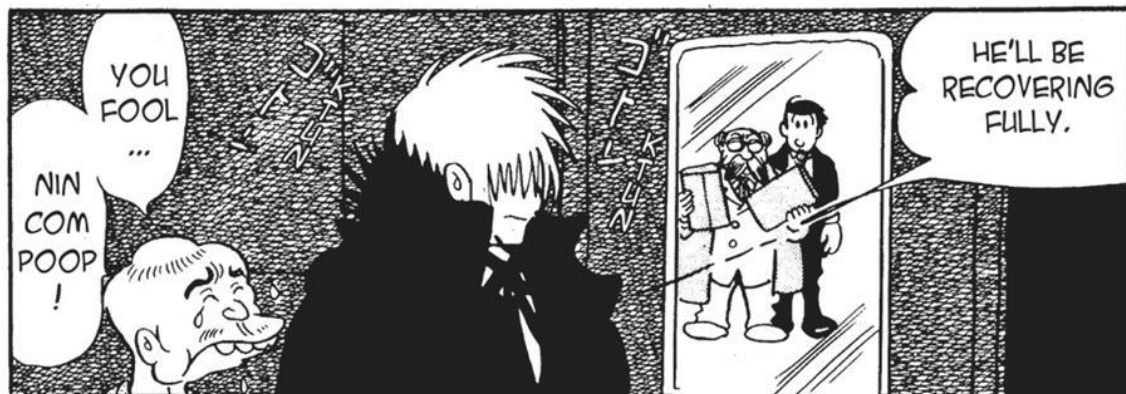
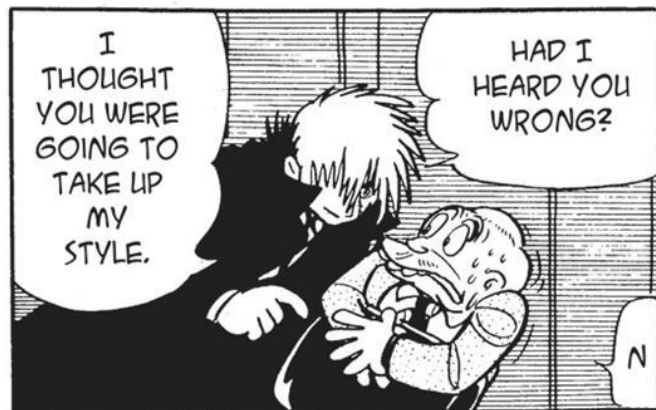
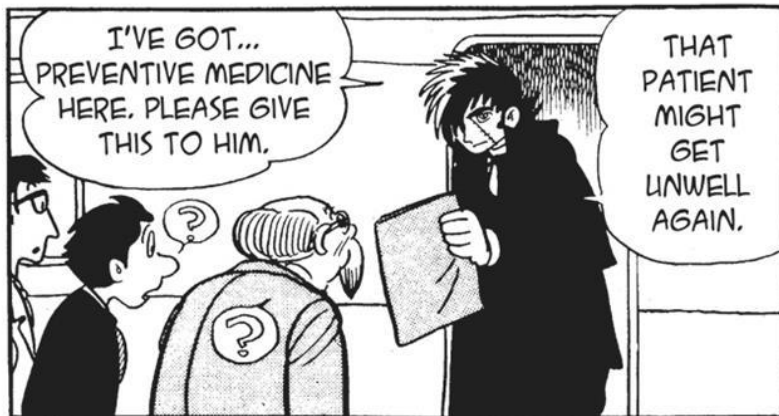
NOW

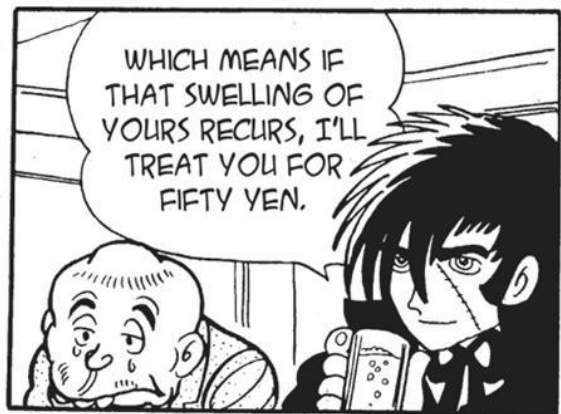
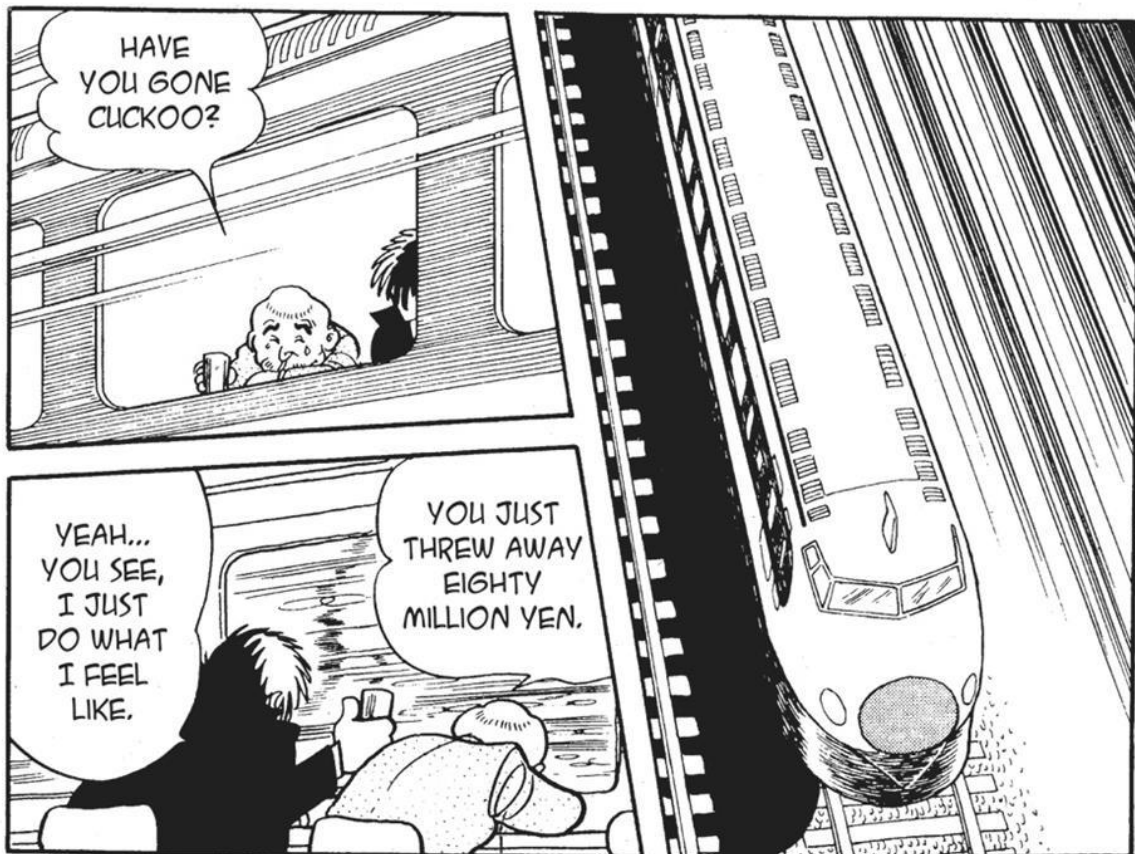




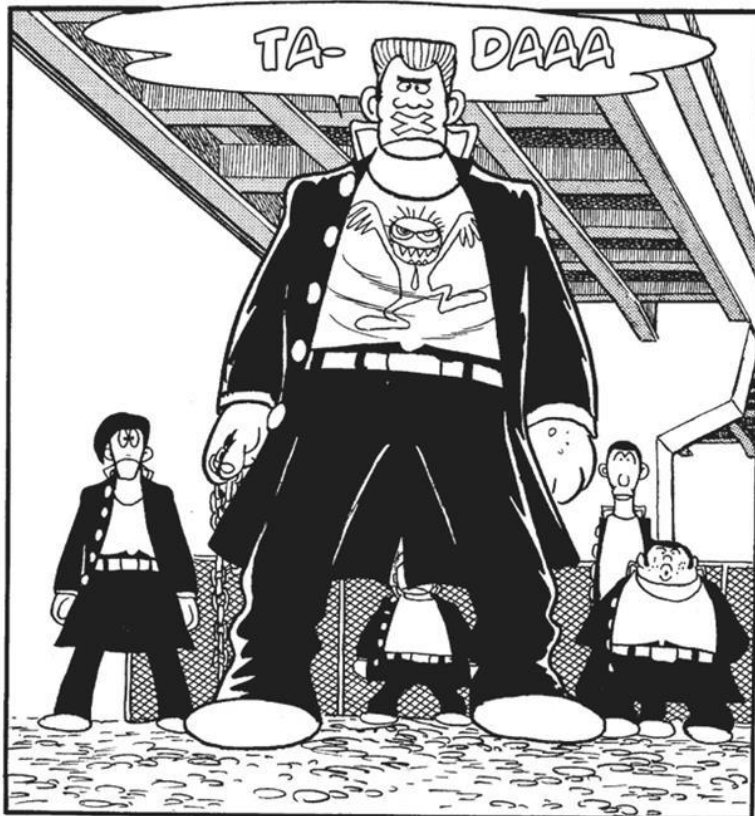
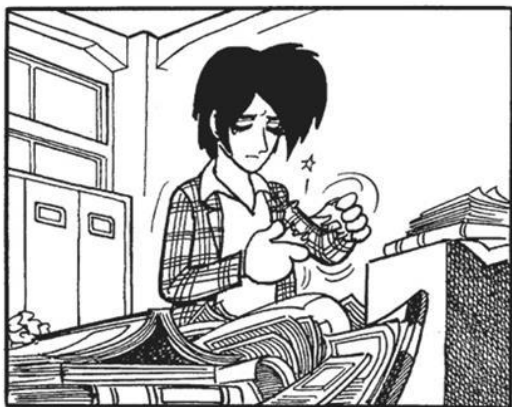
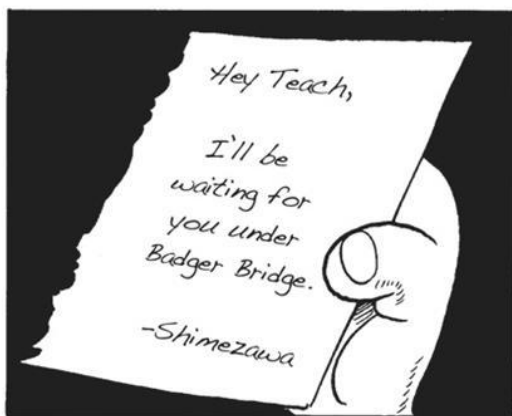


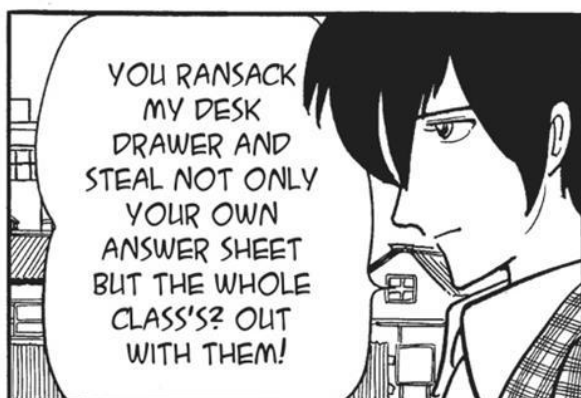


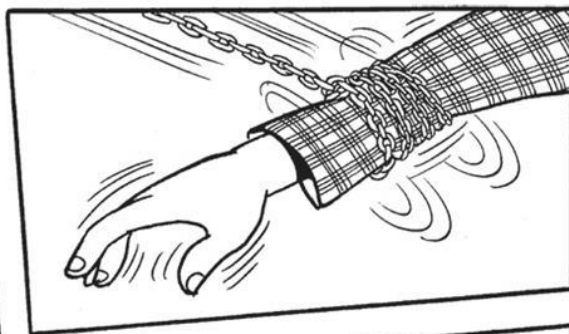


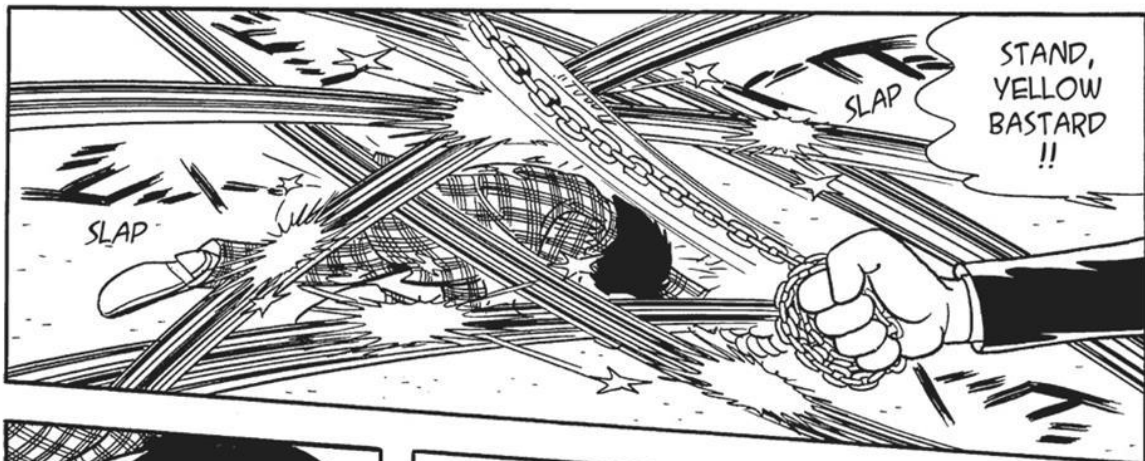


TALK









STAND,
YELLOW
BASTARD
!!



I'M WARNING YA.
NEXT TIME YOUR
CLASS SUCKS,

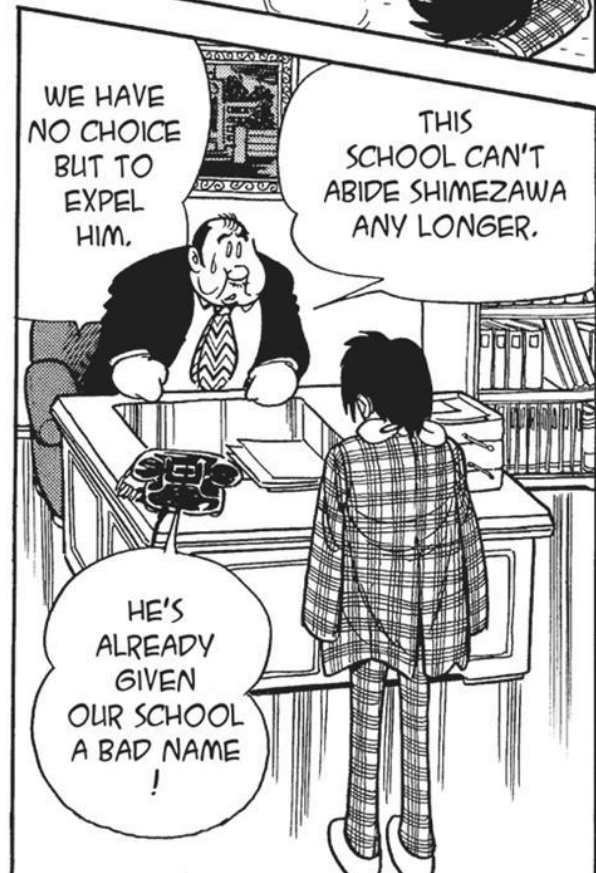
I BASH
IN YOUR FACE.

HUH,
TOO EASY.



I'VE ASKED
YOU TO LET
ME HANDLE
SHIMEZAWA,
SIR.

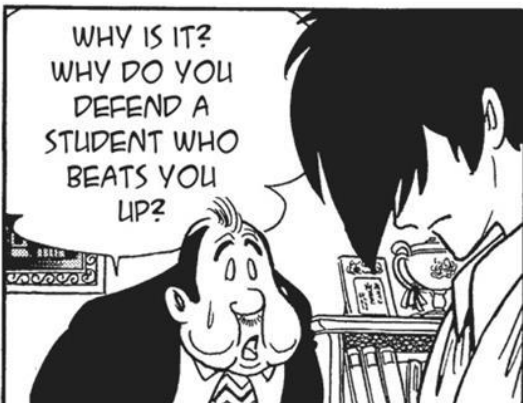
PLEASE,
DON'T
EXPEL
HIM.



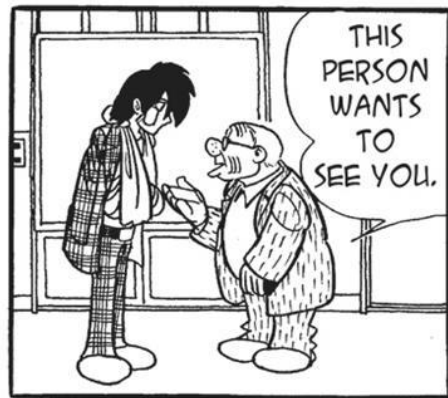
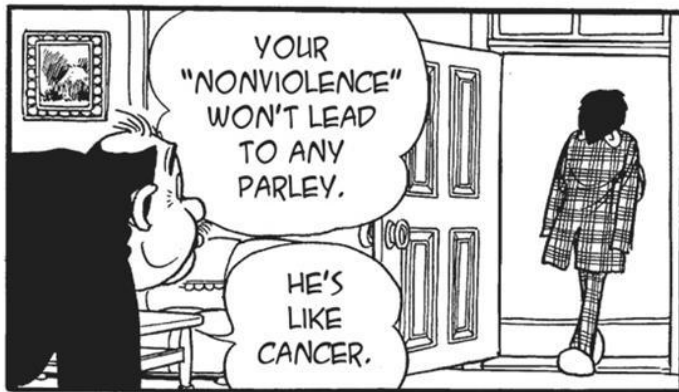
WE HAVE
NO CHOICE
BUT TO
EXPEL
HIM.

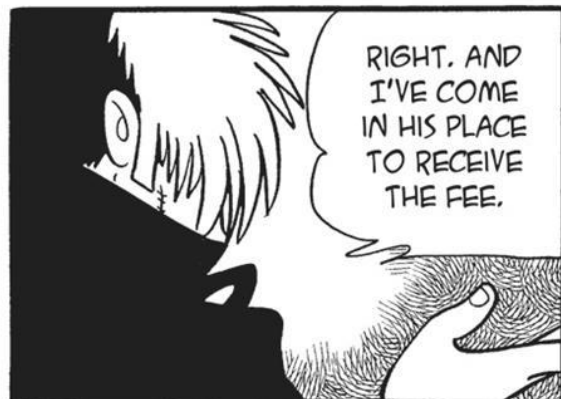
THIS
SCHOOL CAN'T
ABIDE SHIMEZAWA
ANY LONGER.

HE'S
ALREADY
GIVEN
OUR SCHOOL
A BAD NAME
!

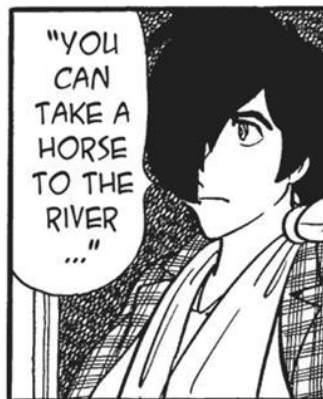
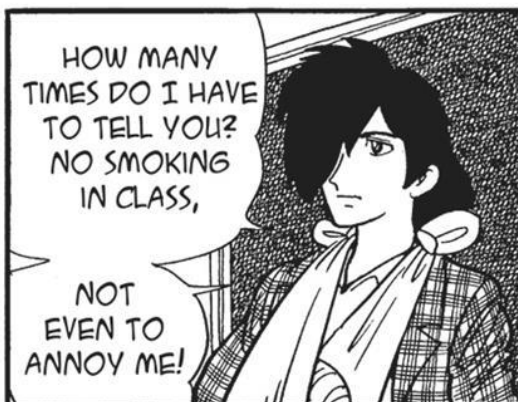


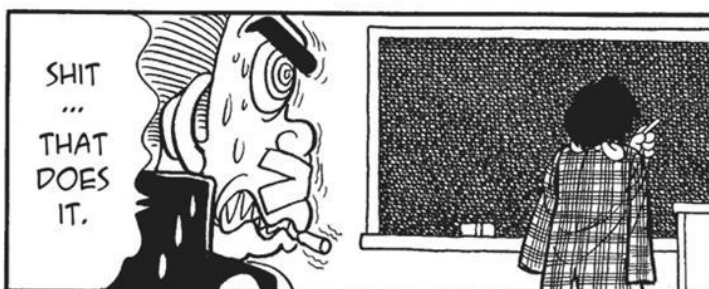
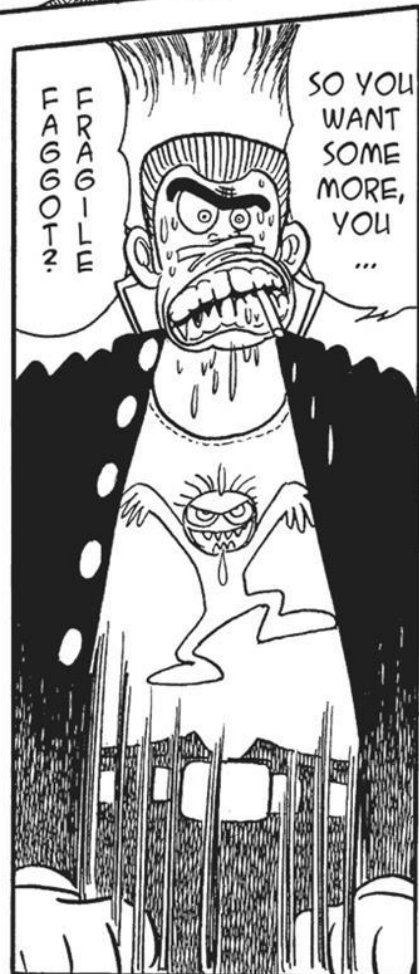
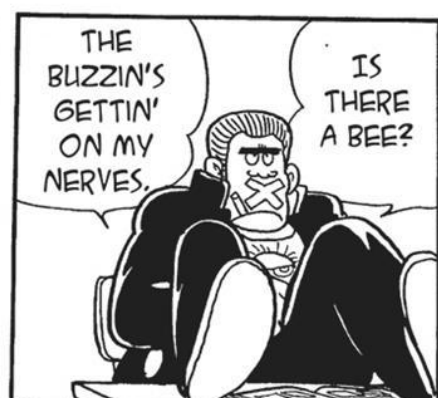
WHY IS IT?
WHY DO YOU
DEFEND A
STUDENT WHO
BEATS YOU
UP?

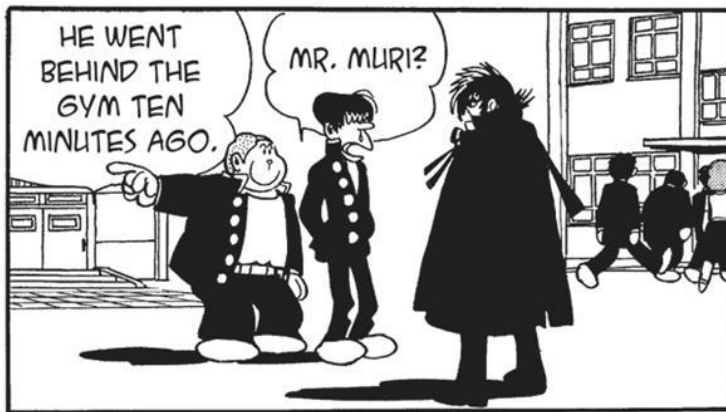




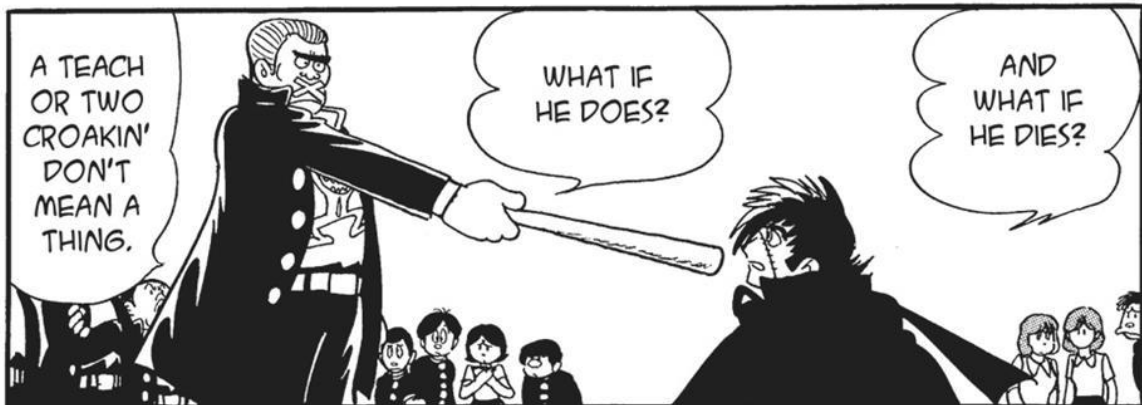
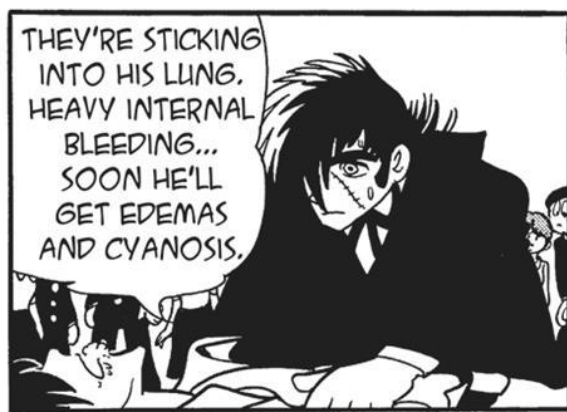
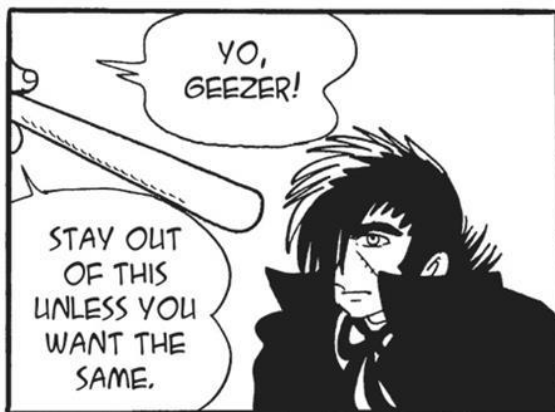




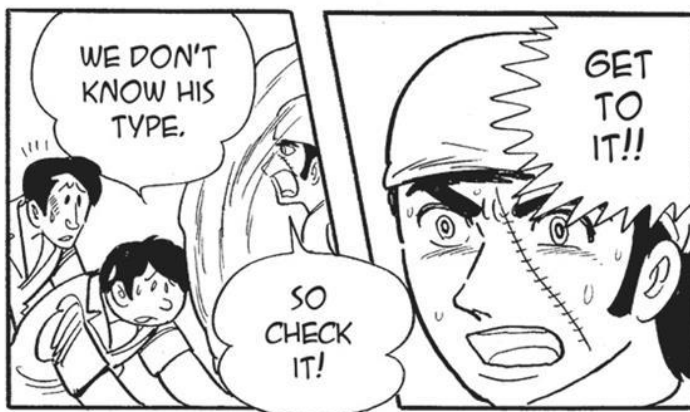
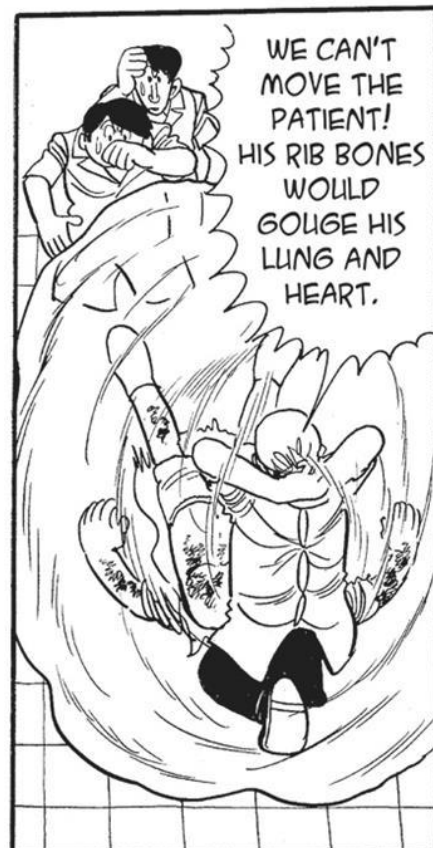


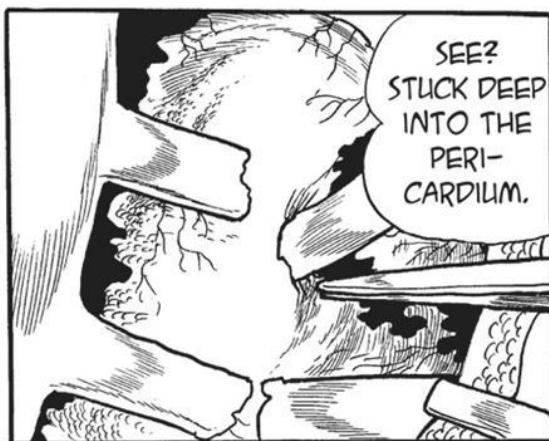
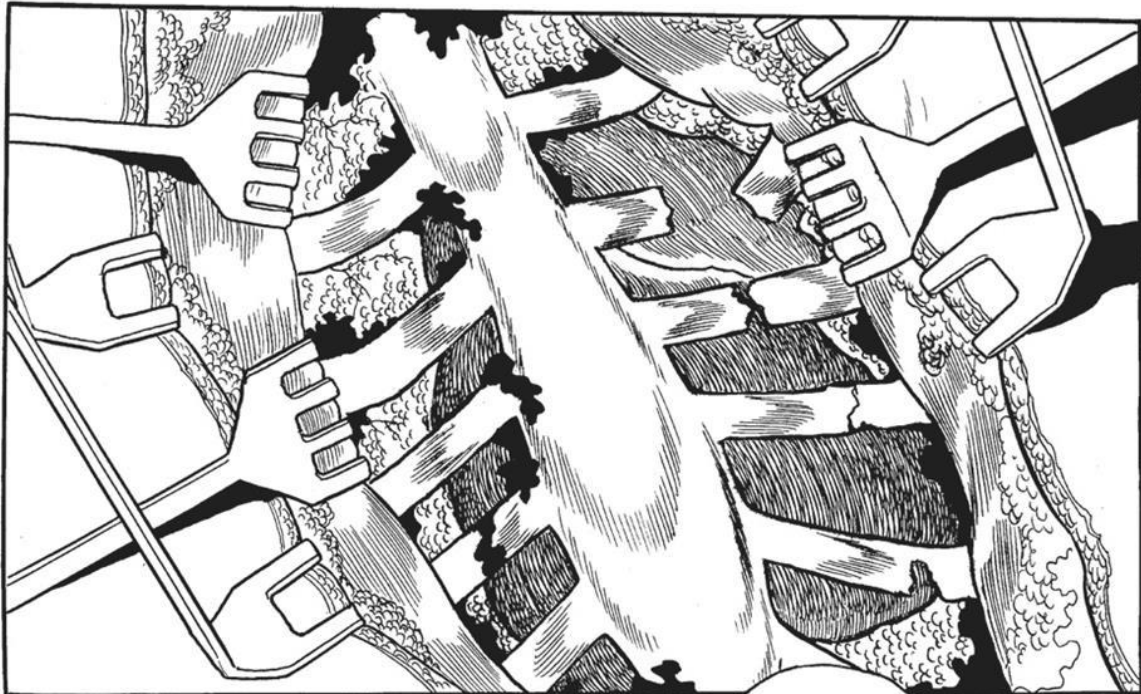


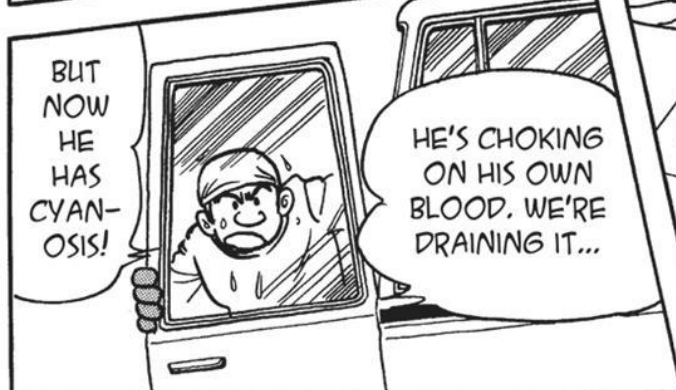
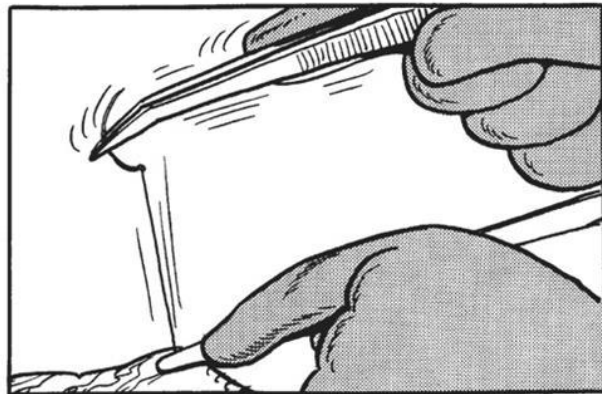
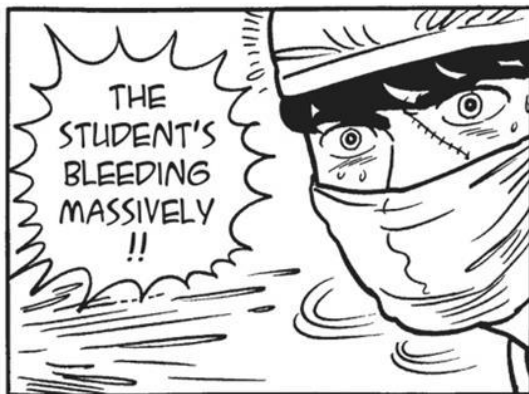
NOTE: "MURI" MEANS IMPOSSIBLE. THE FIRST CHARACTER OF THE STUDENT'S NAME, SHIMEZAWA, LOOKS LIKE AN "X" LIKE HIS BANDAGES.

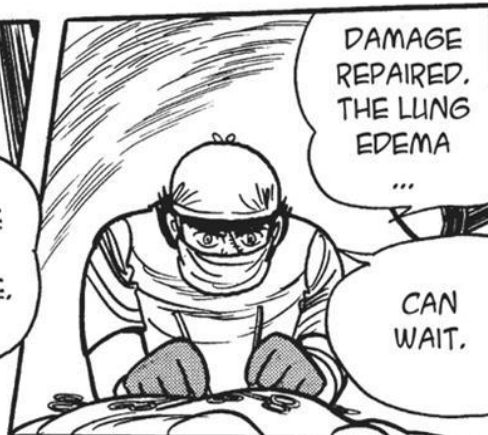
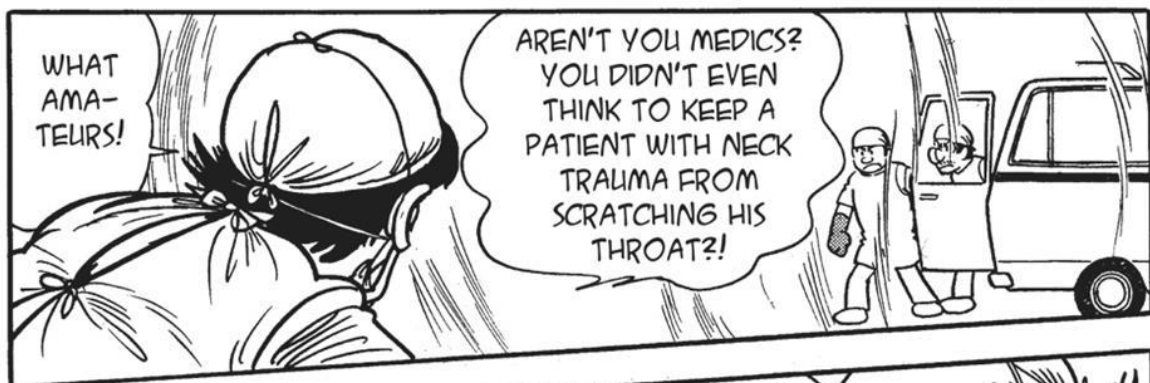


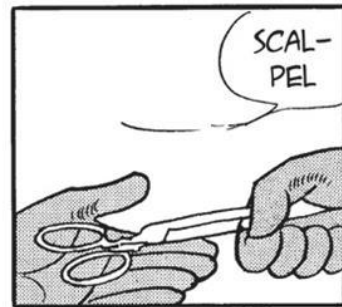
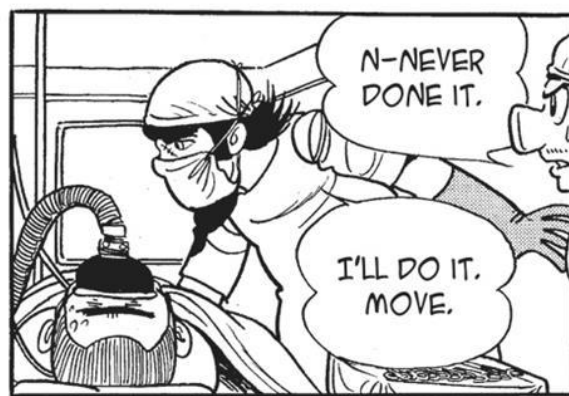




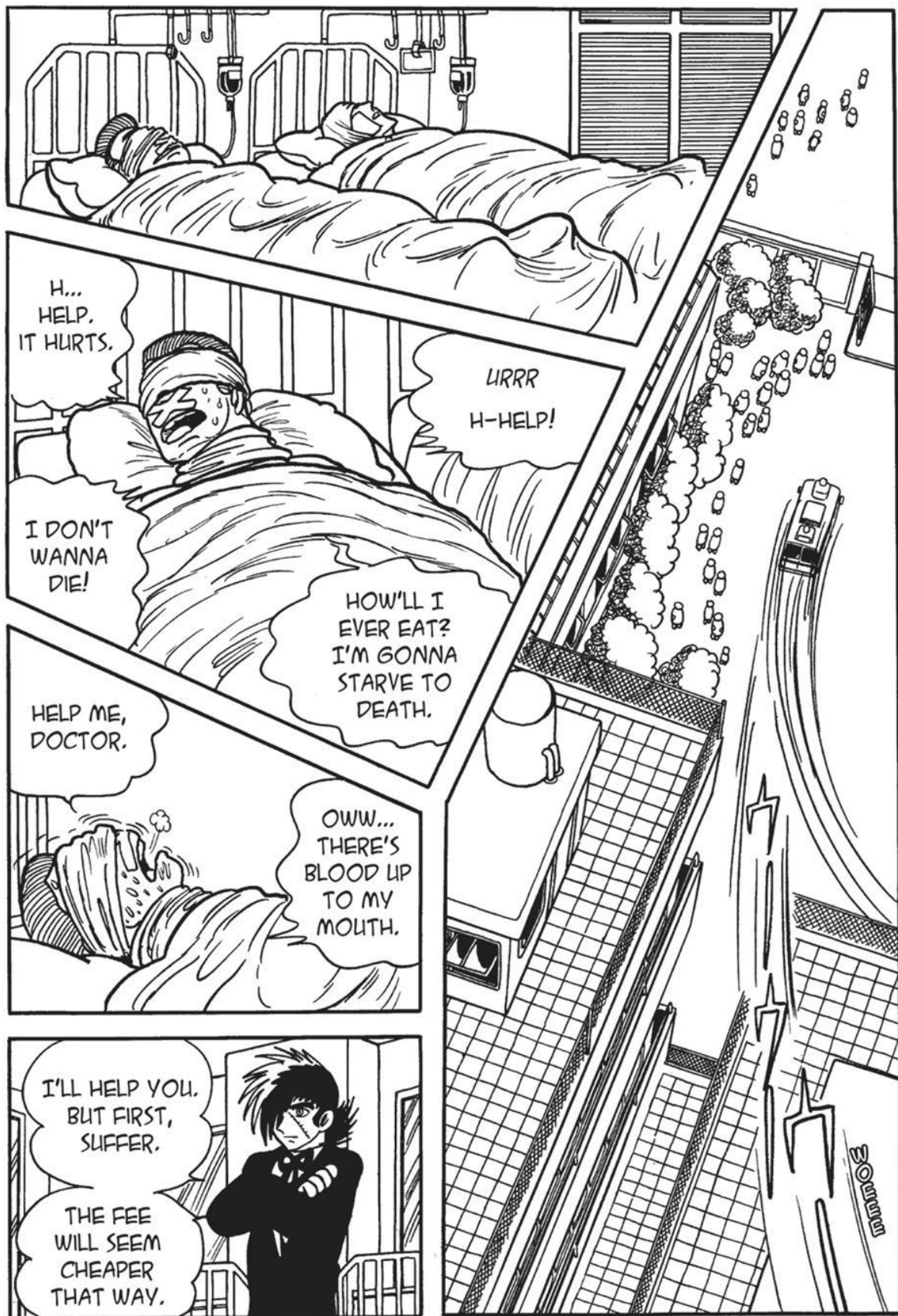


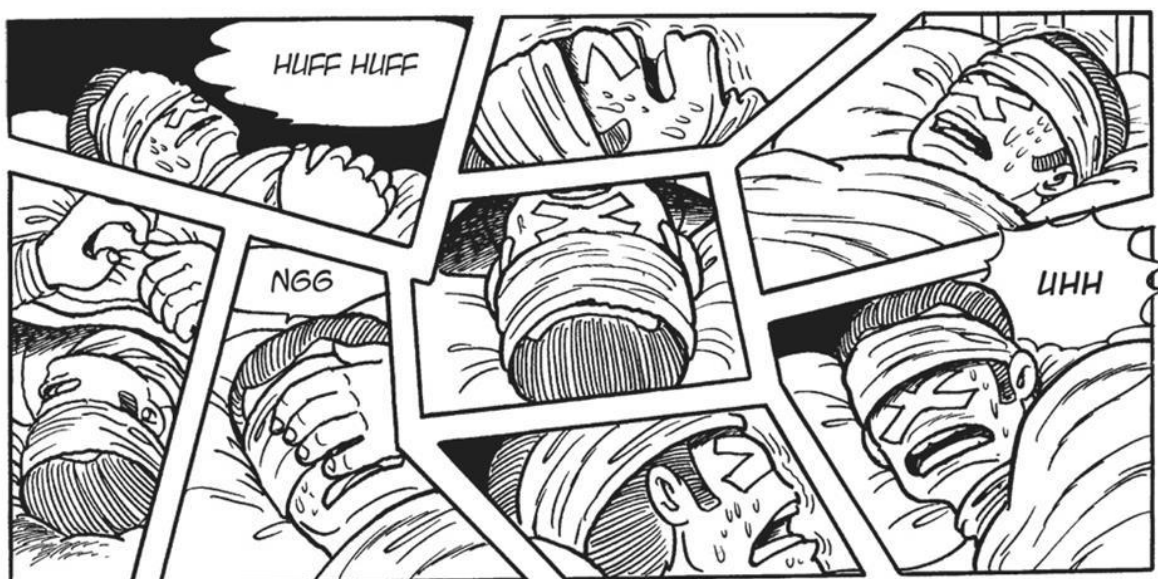


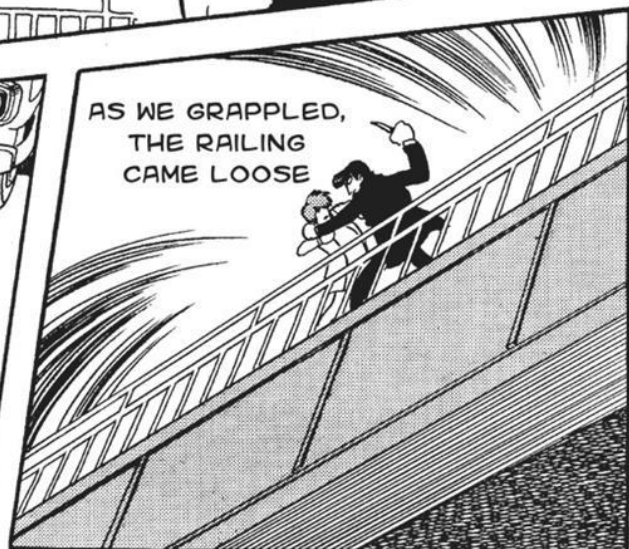


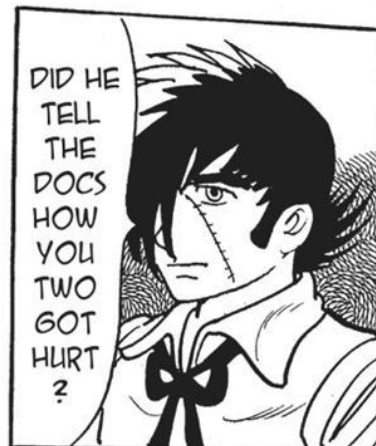
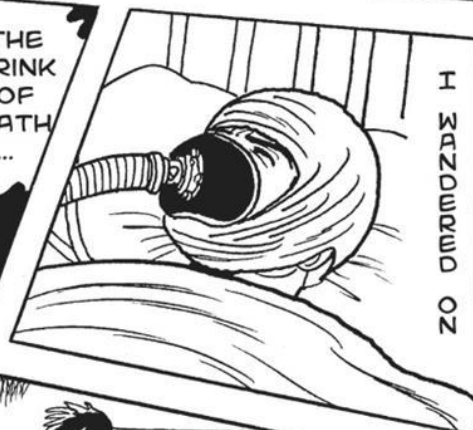
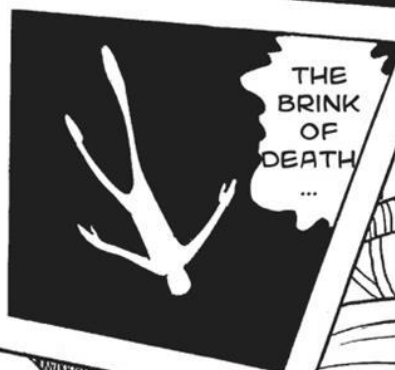


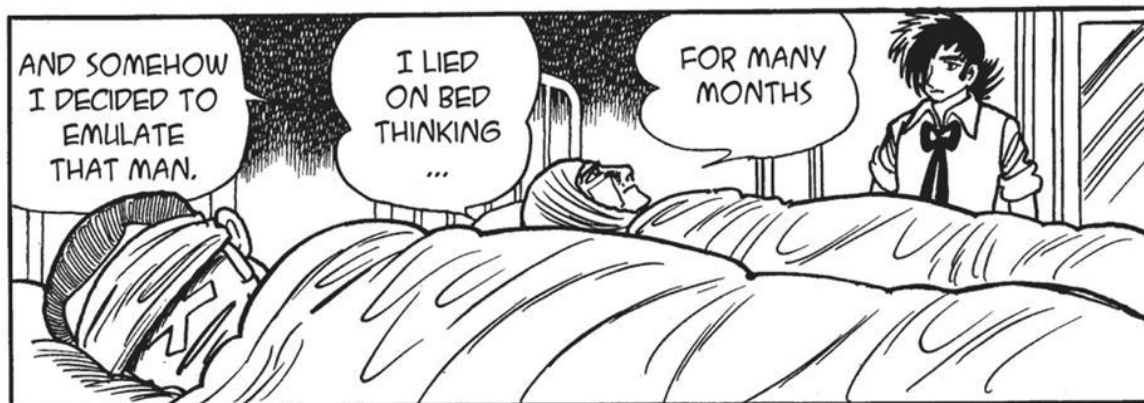
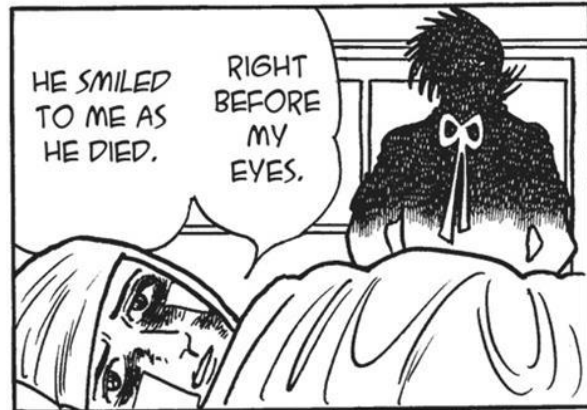


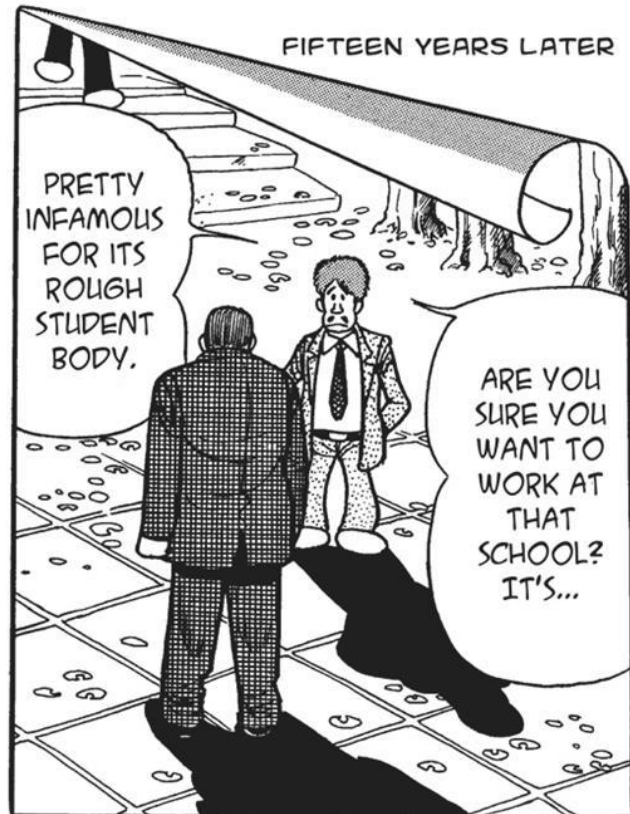
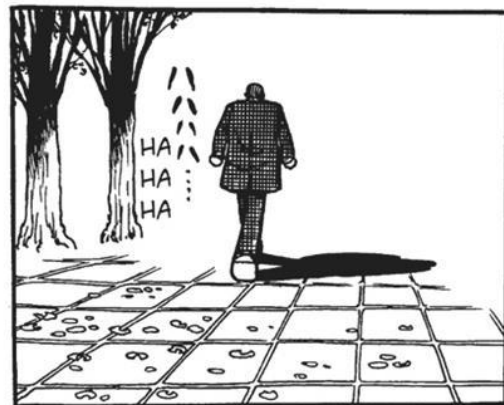




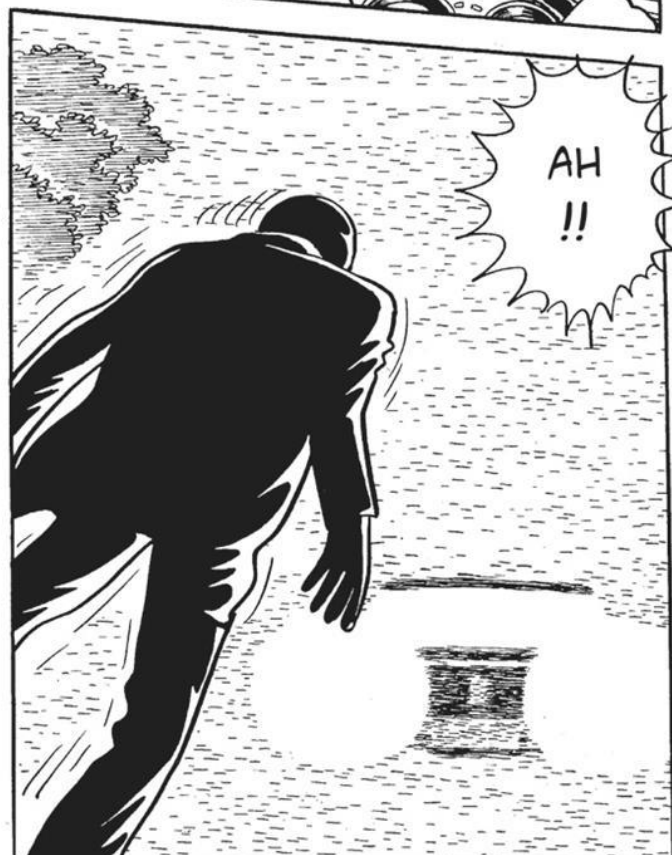
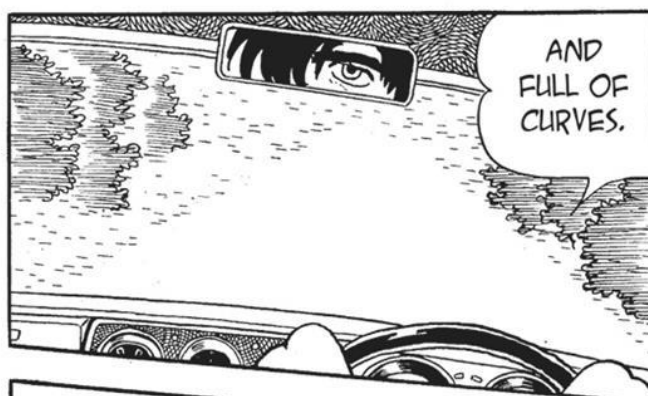




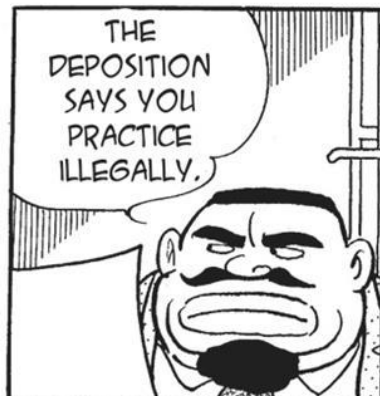


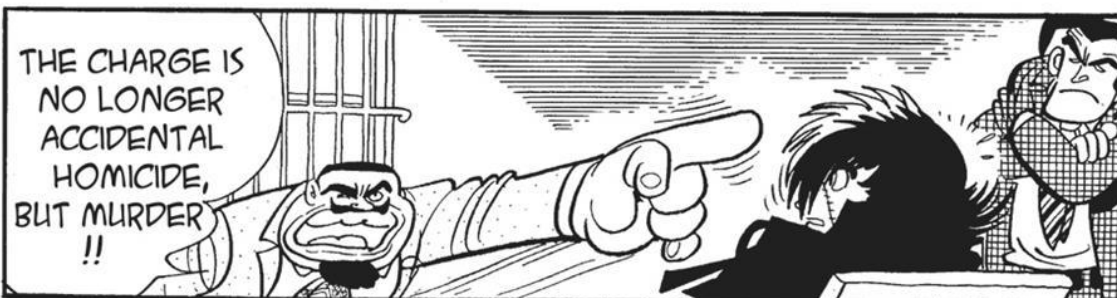
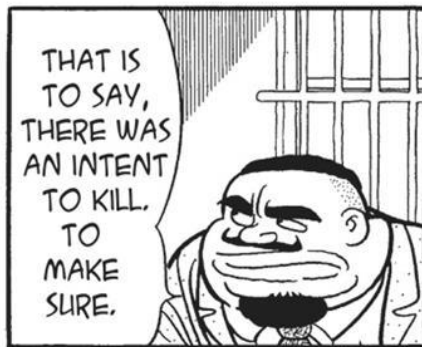


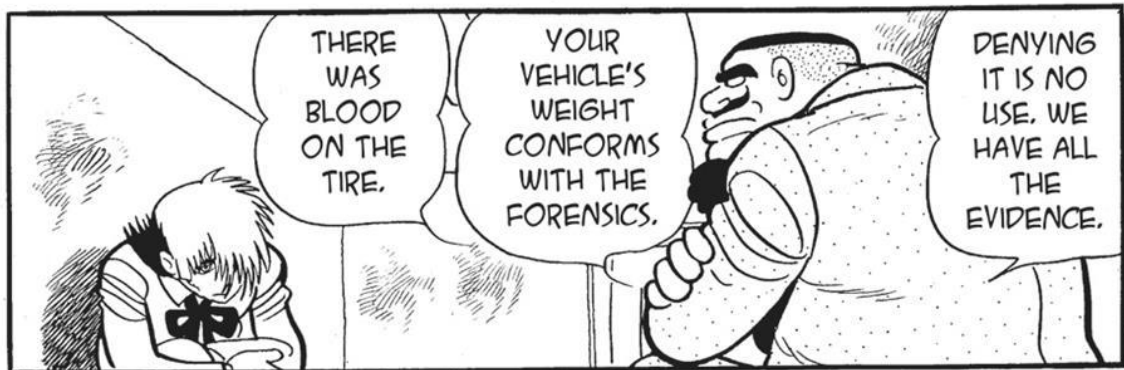
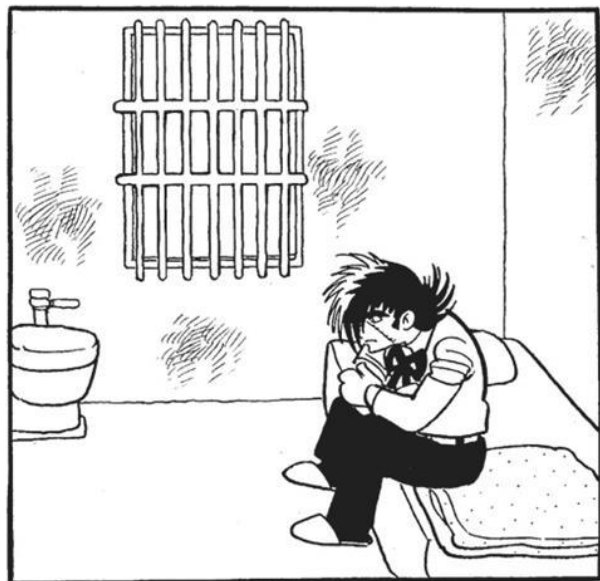
POCKET MONKEY

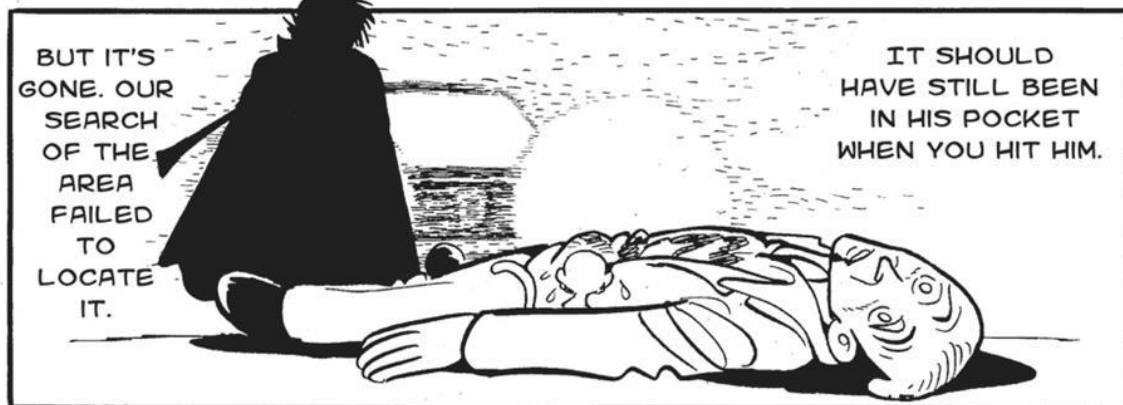
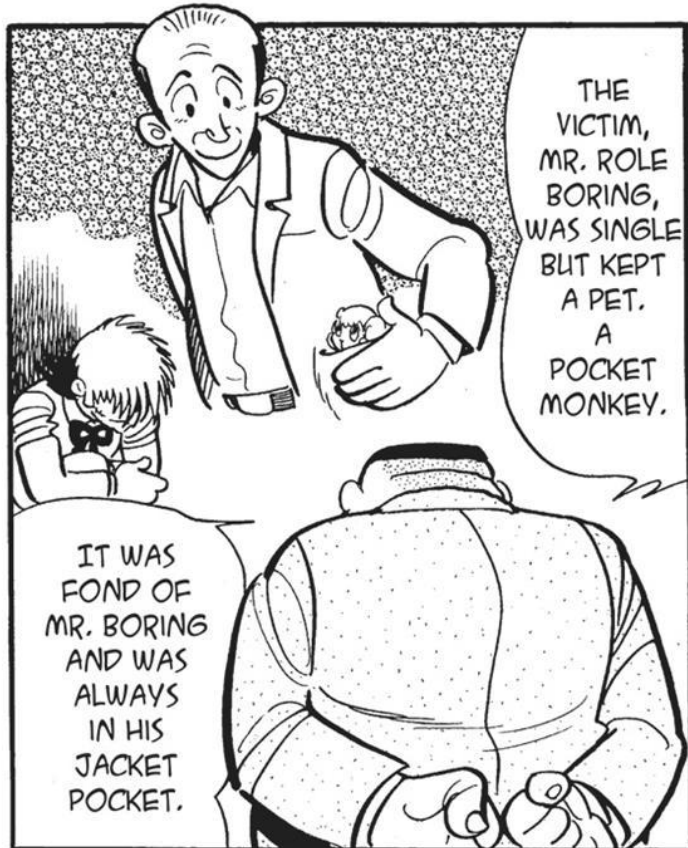
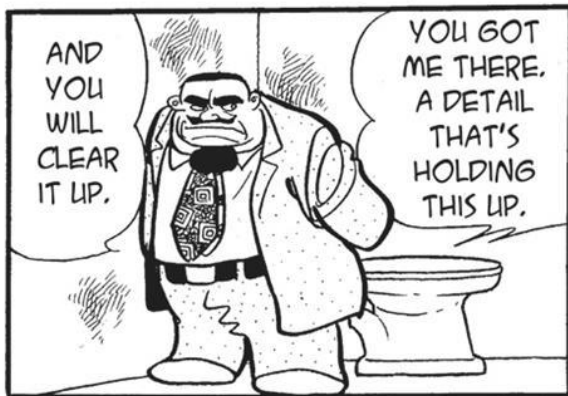


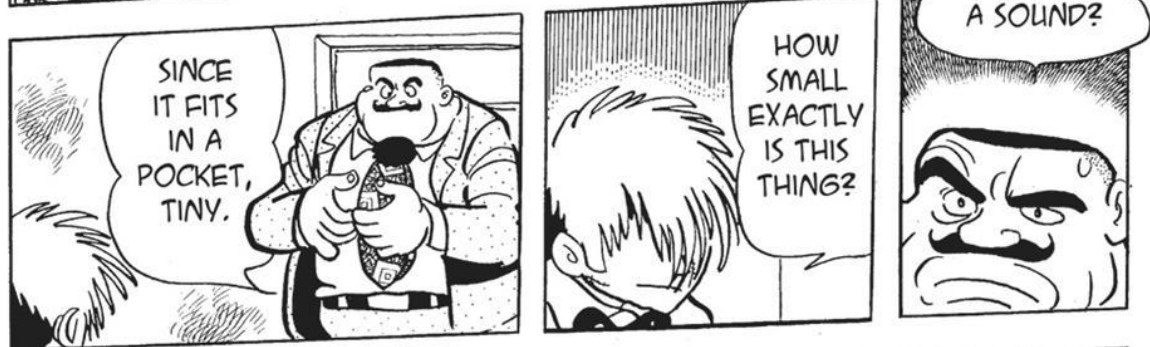
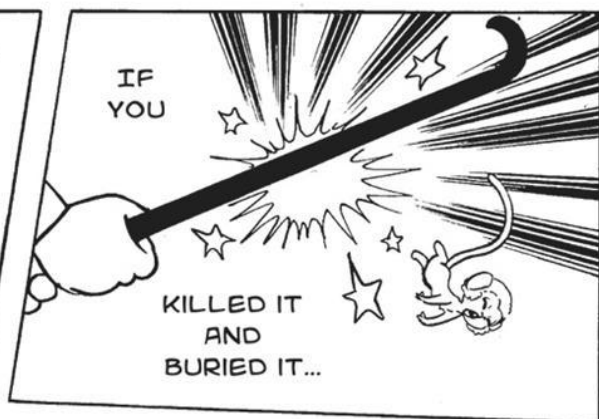


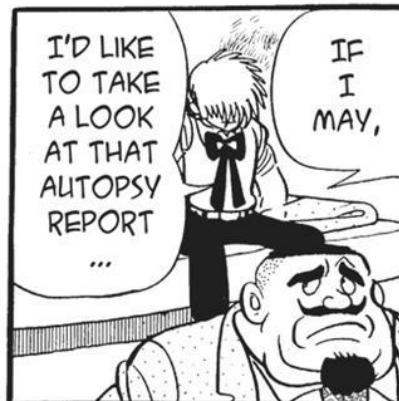
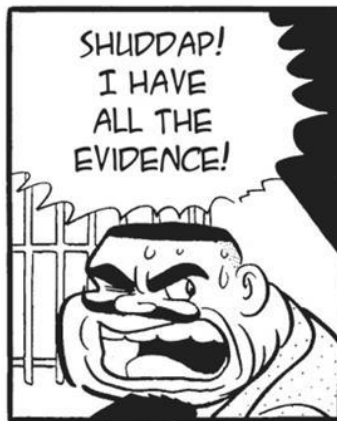


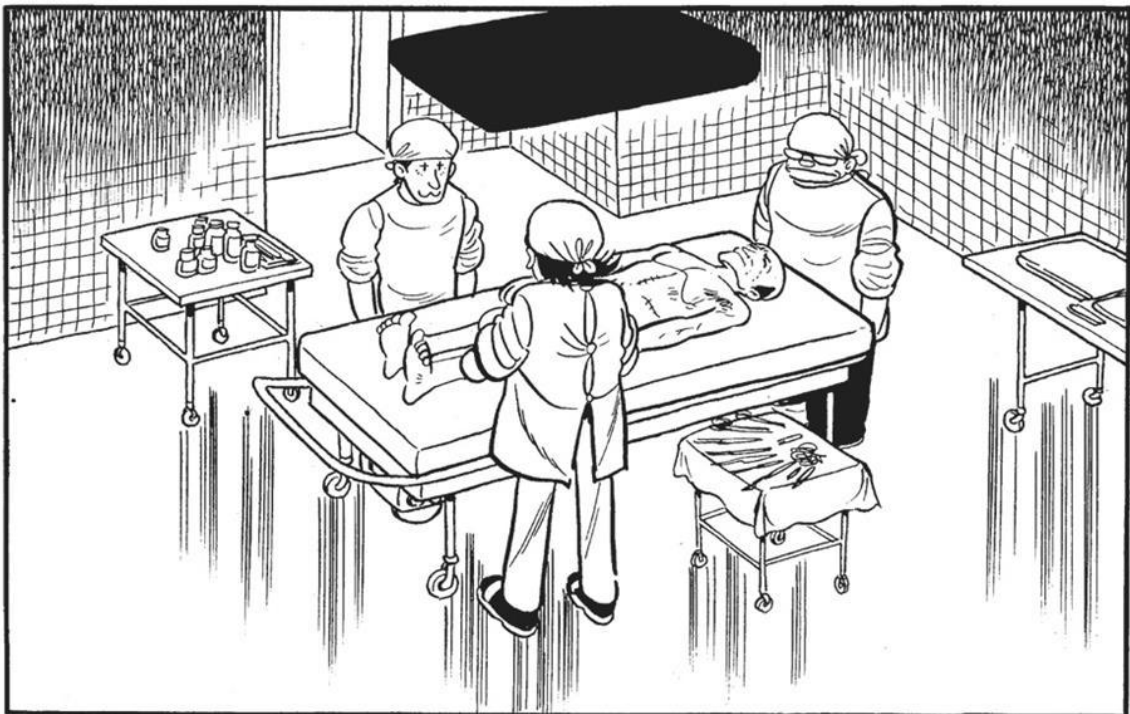
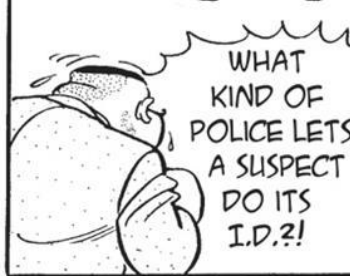


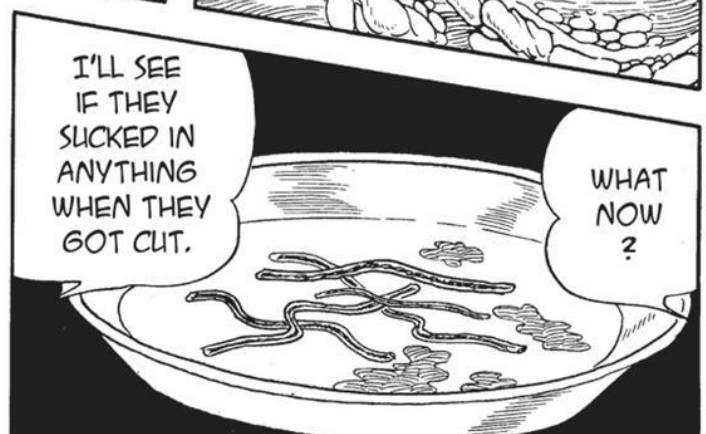
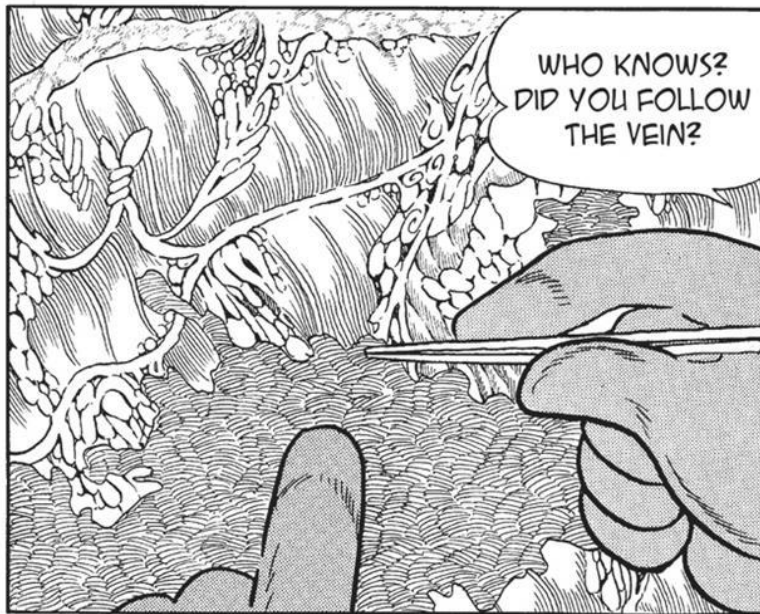


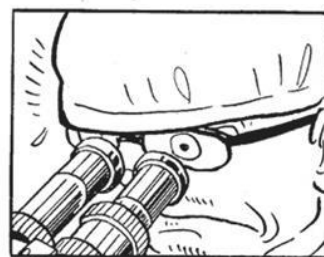
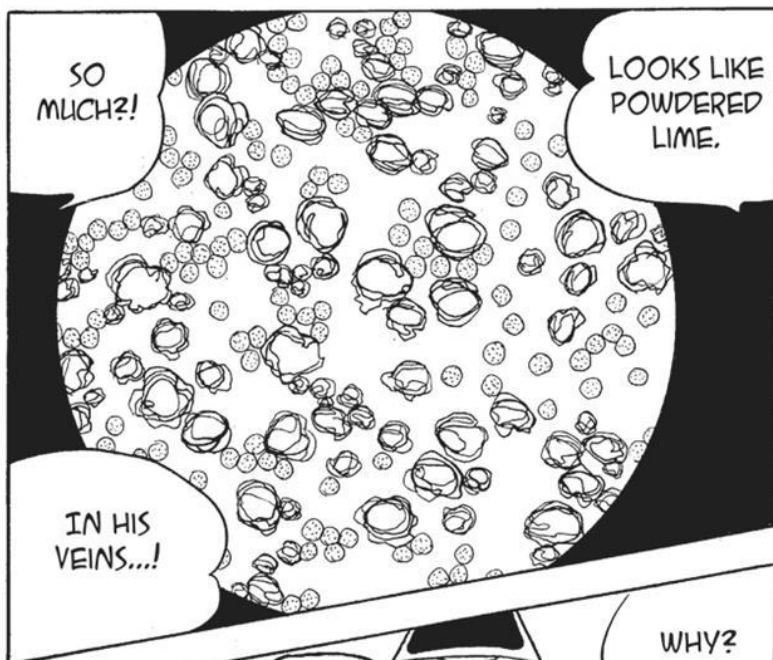
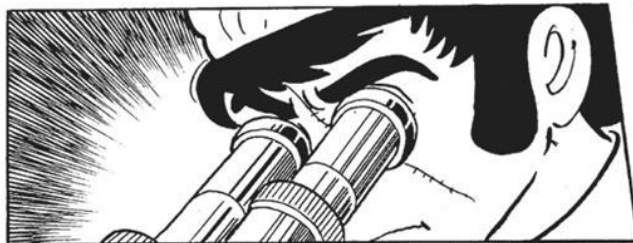
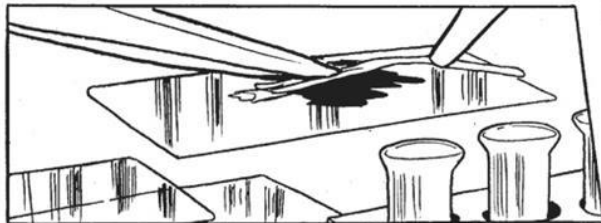


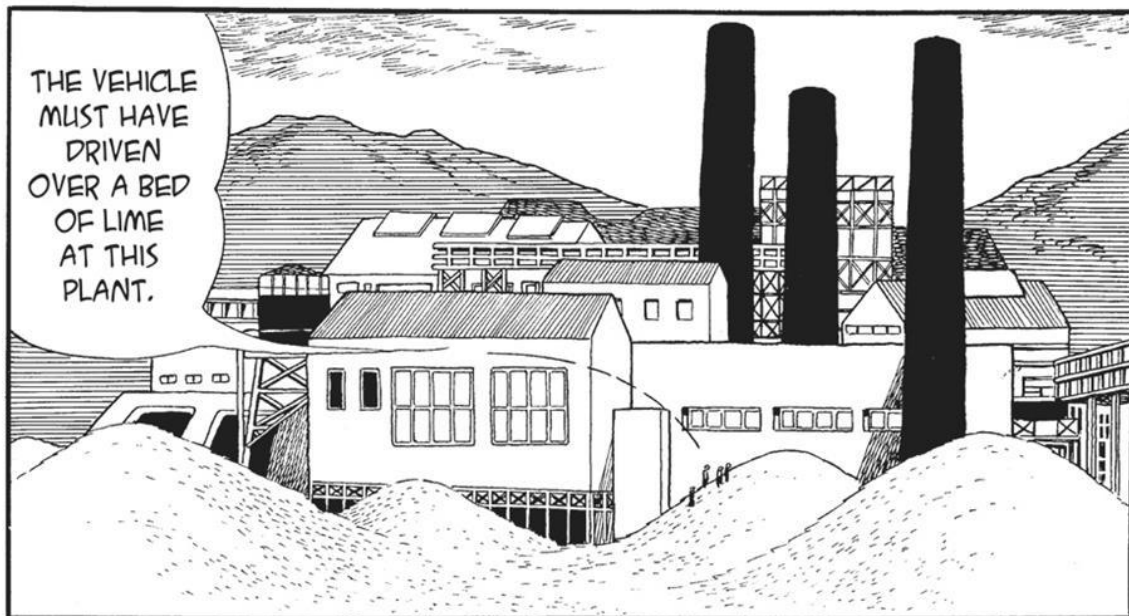
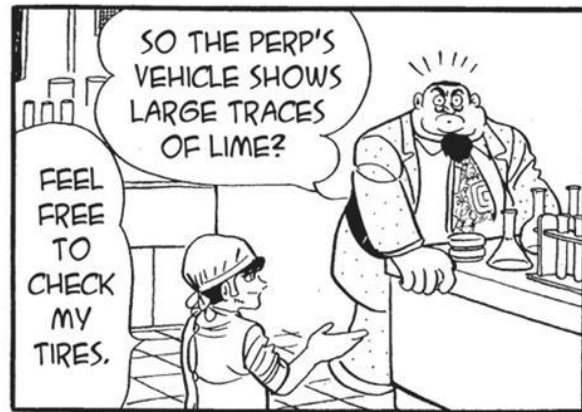
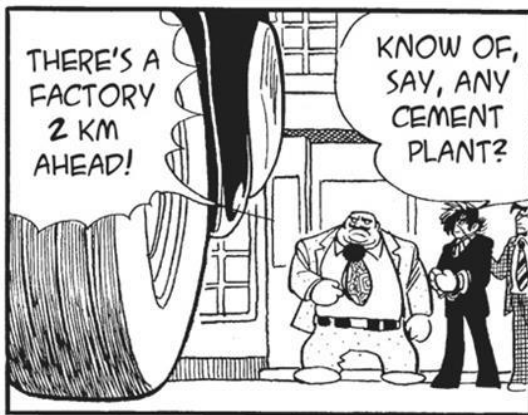


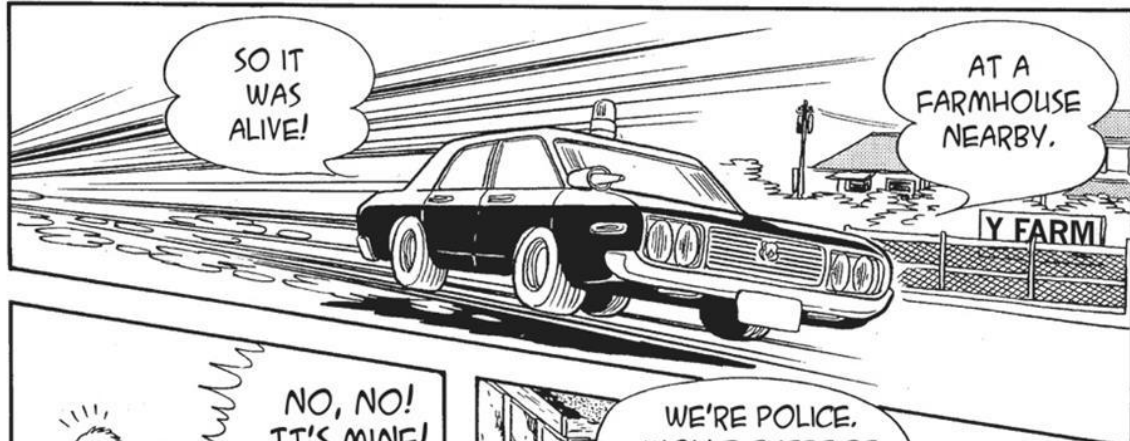
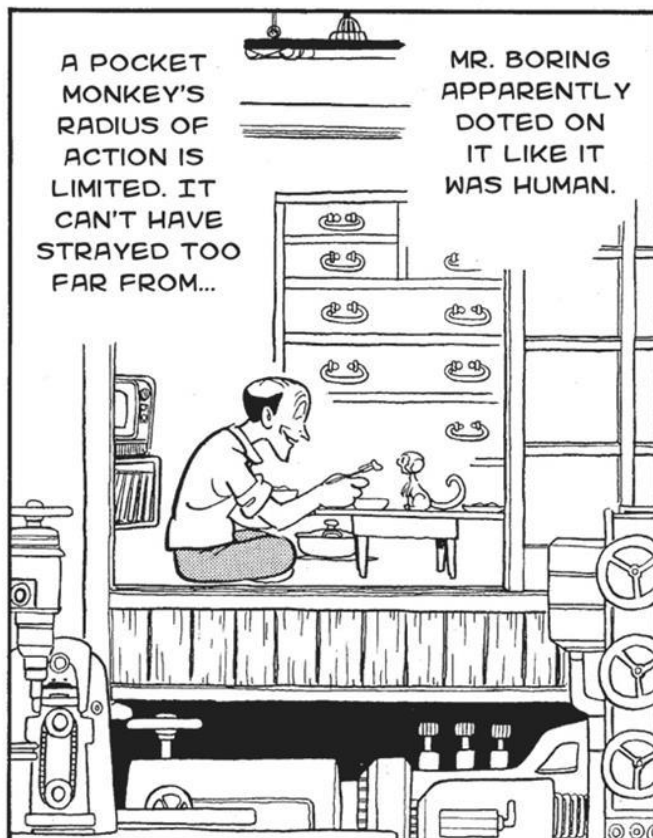


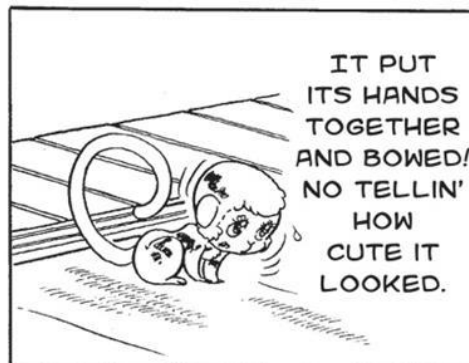
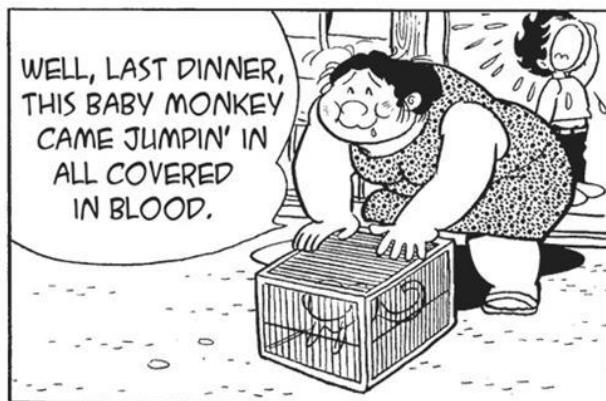
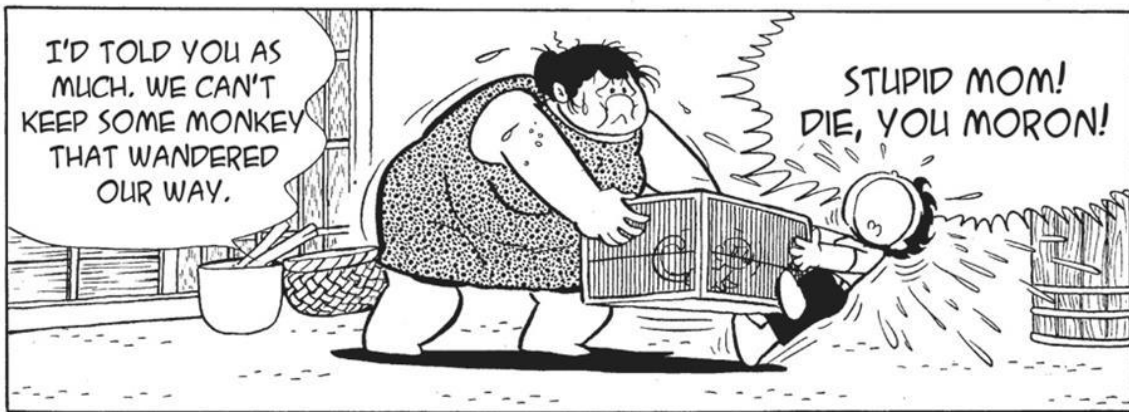


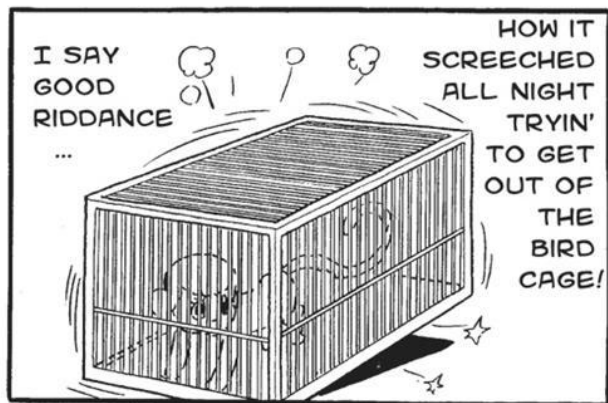




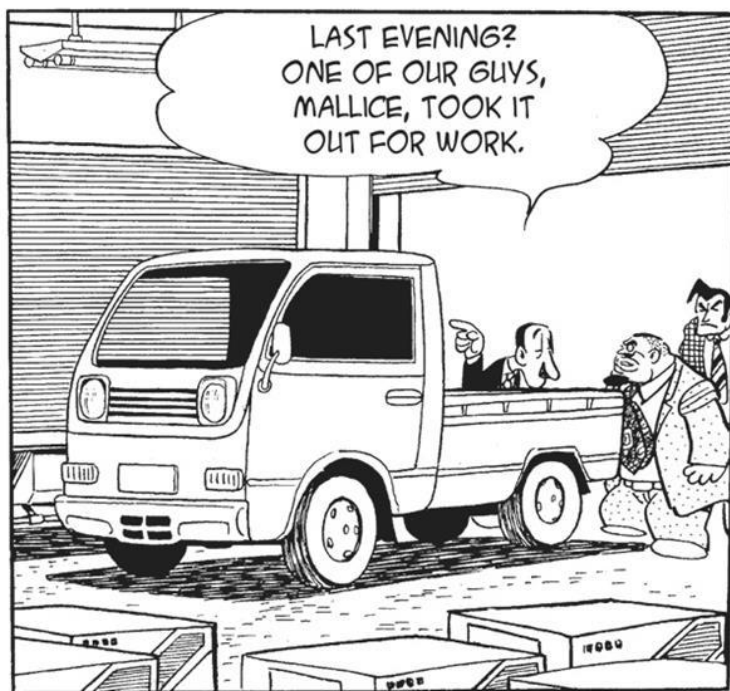
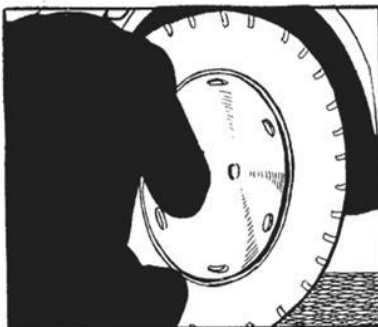


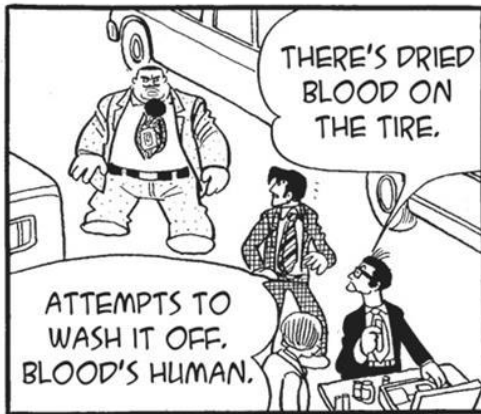




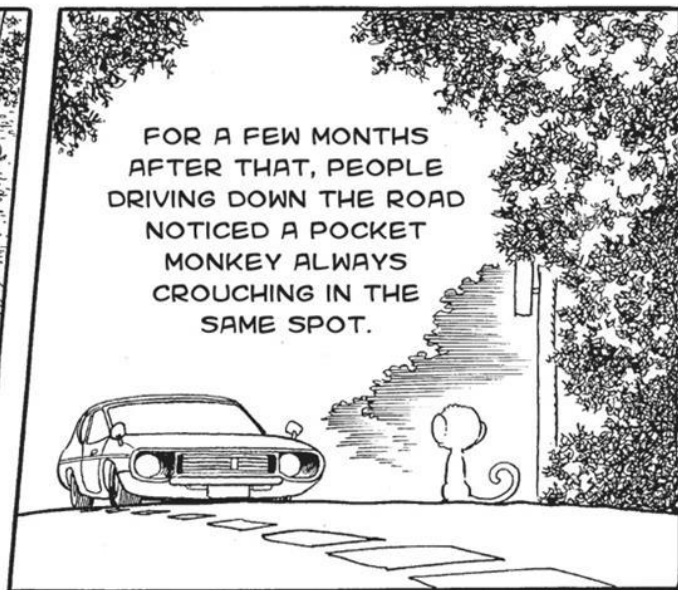




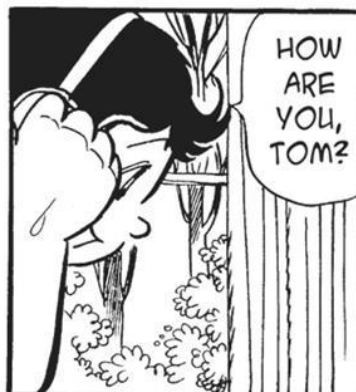
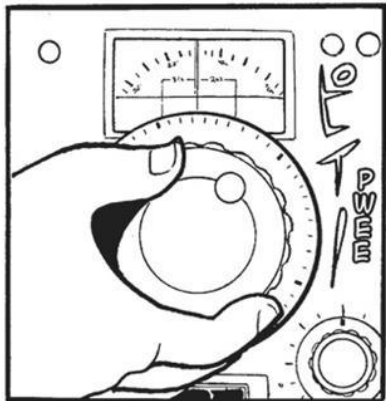
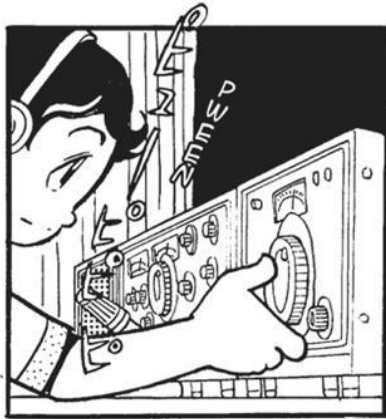


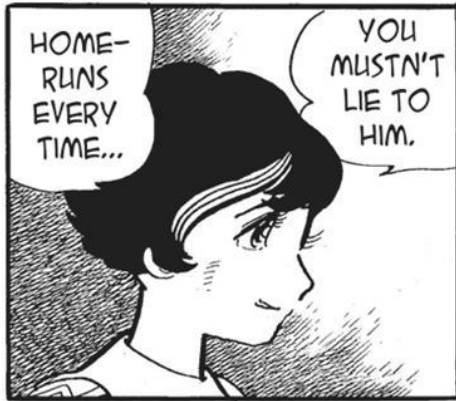
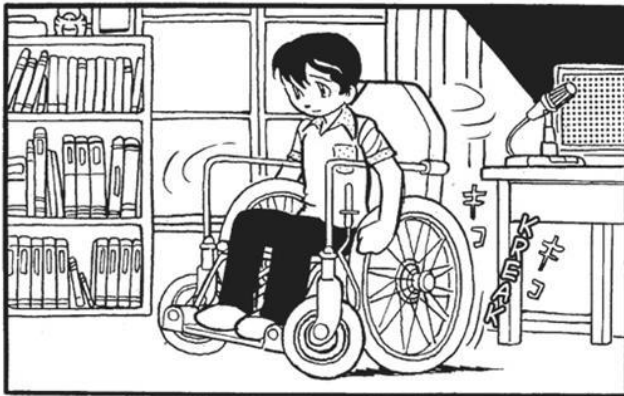
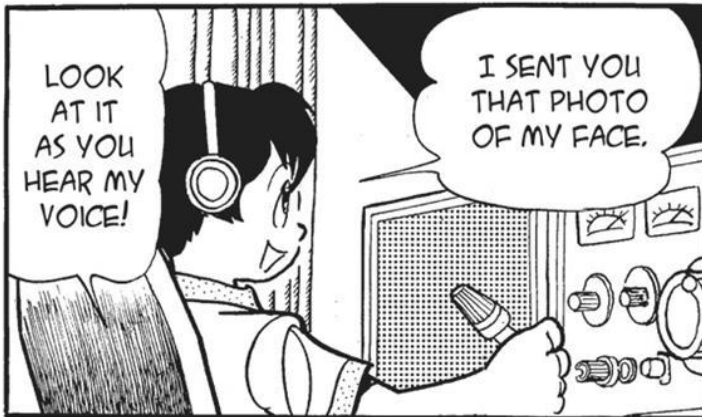


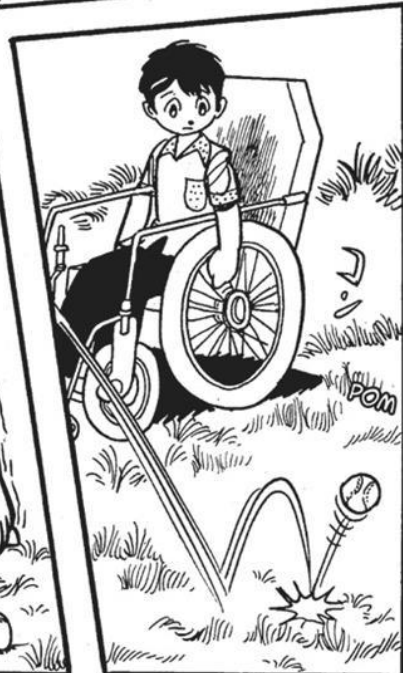
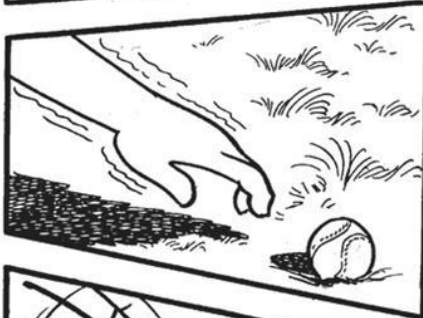




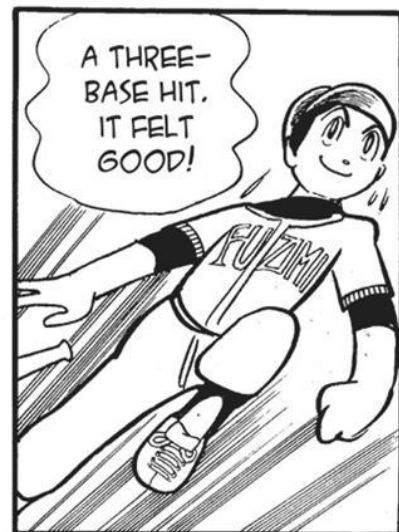
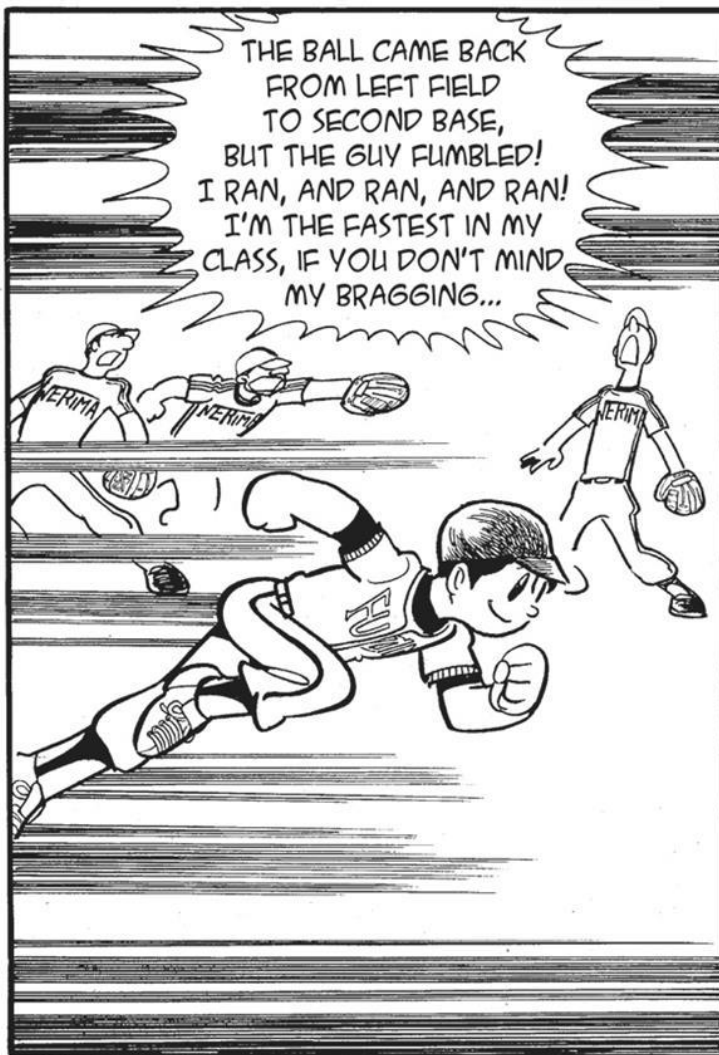
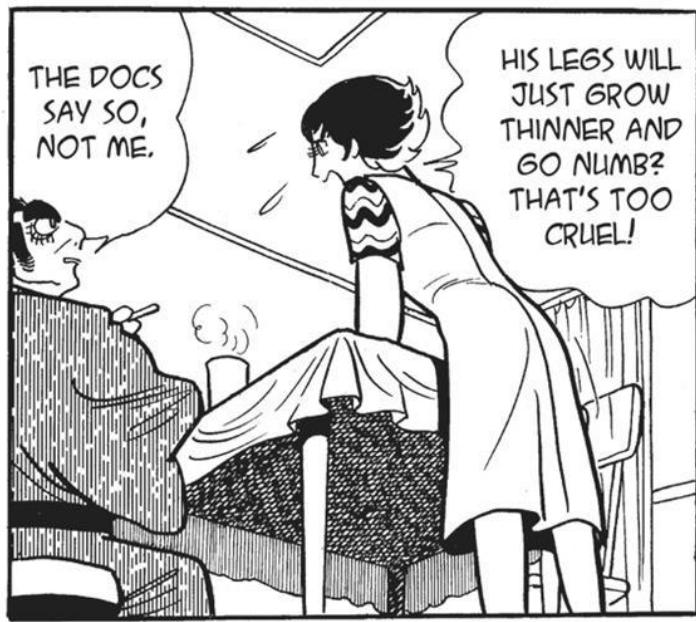
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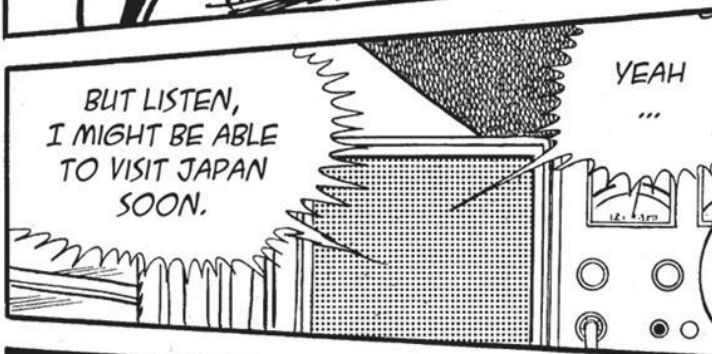
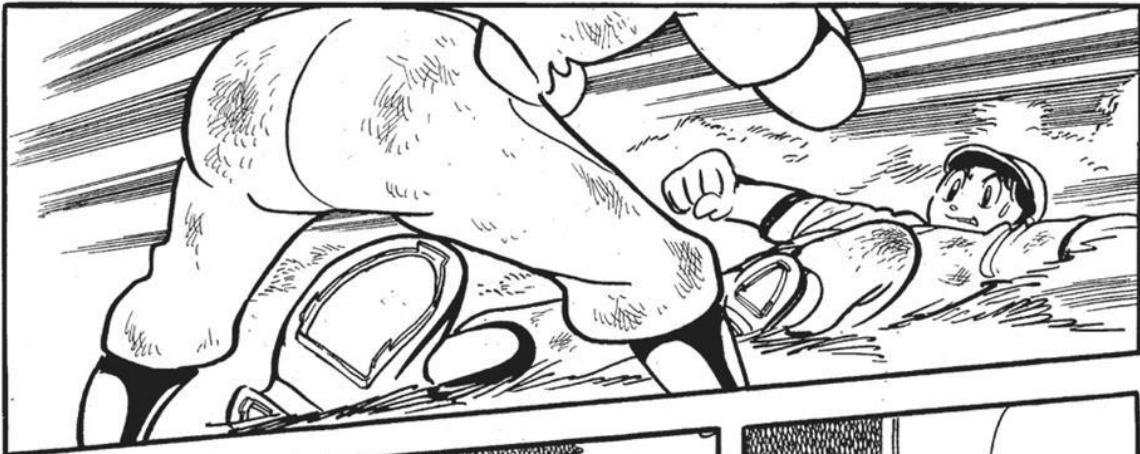






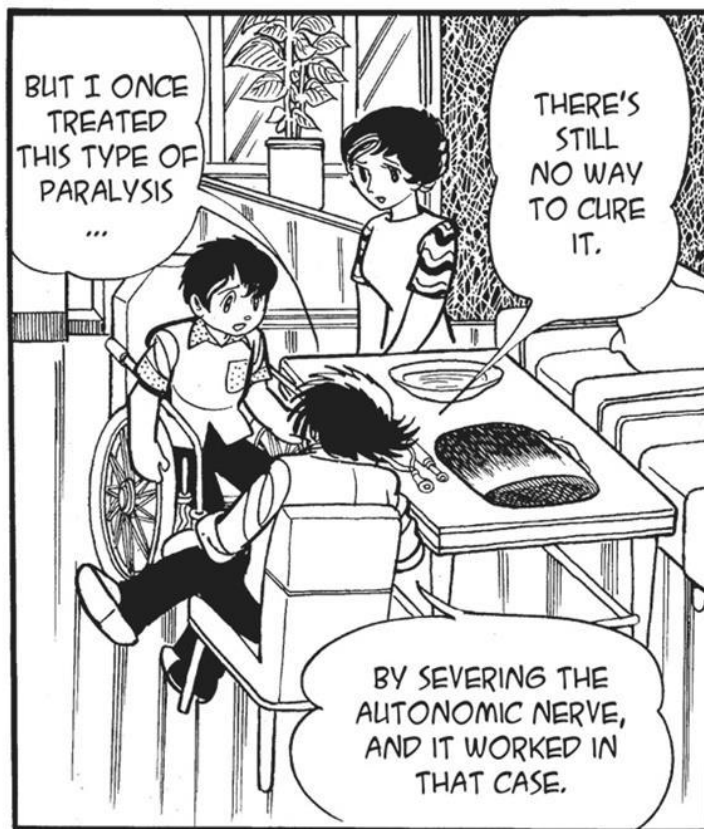




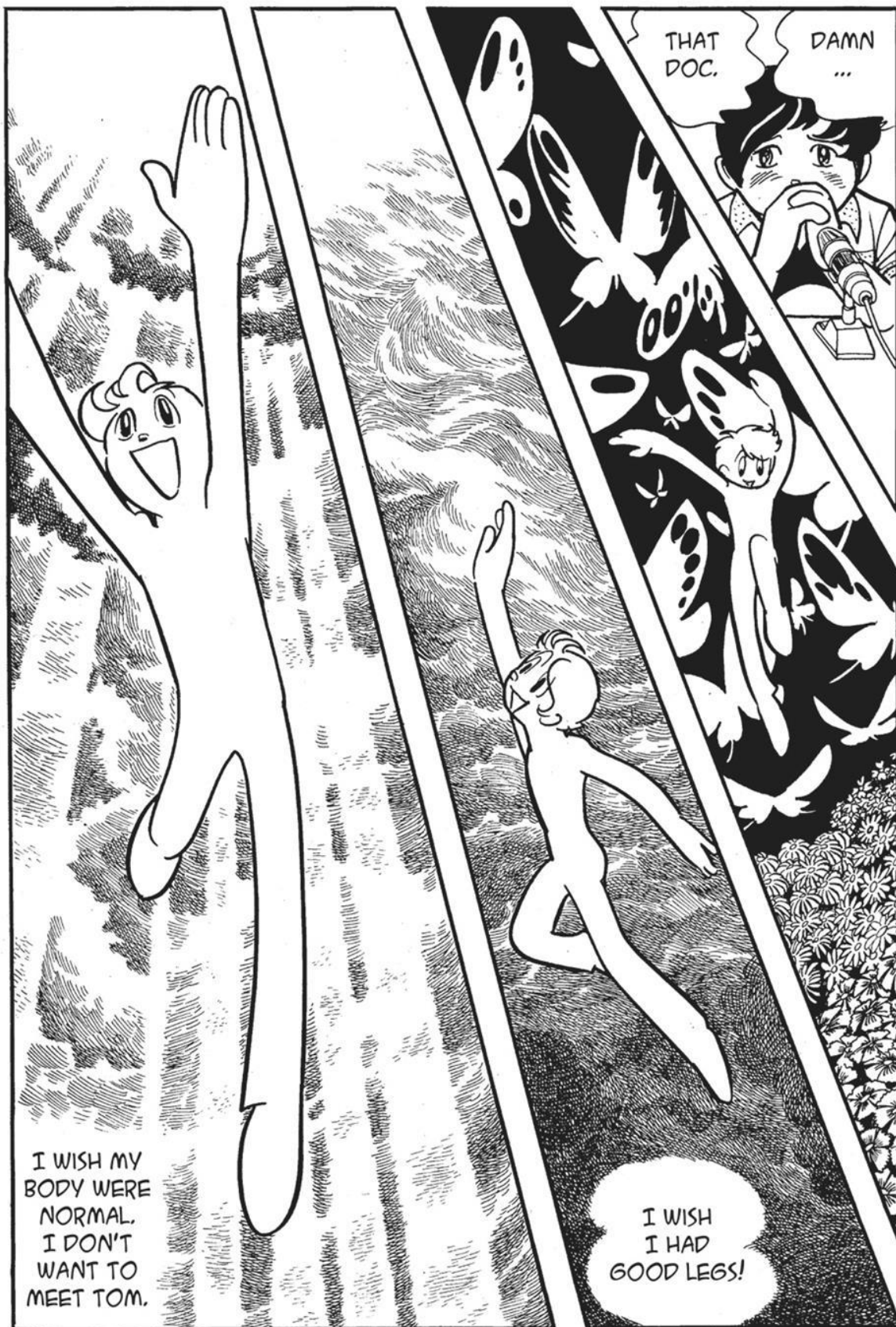


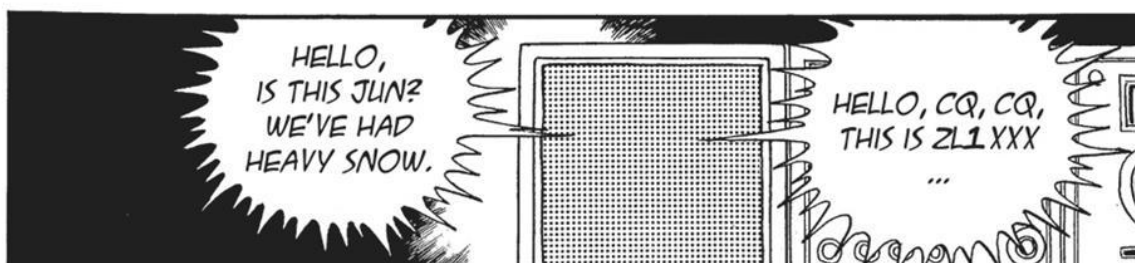


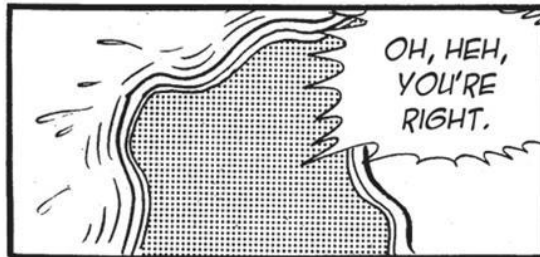
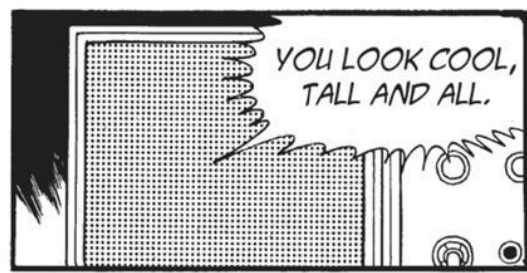




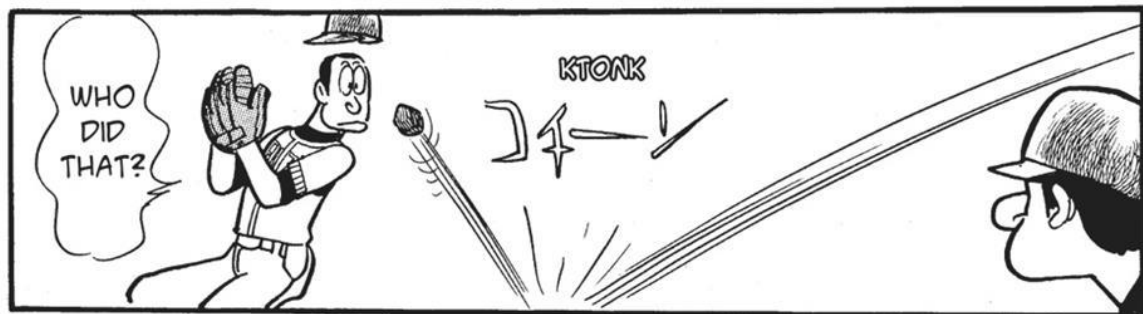
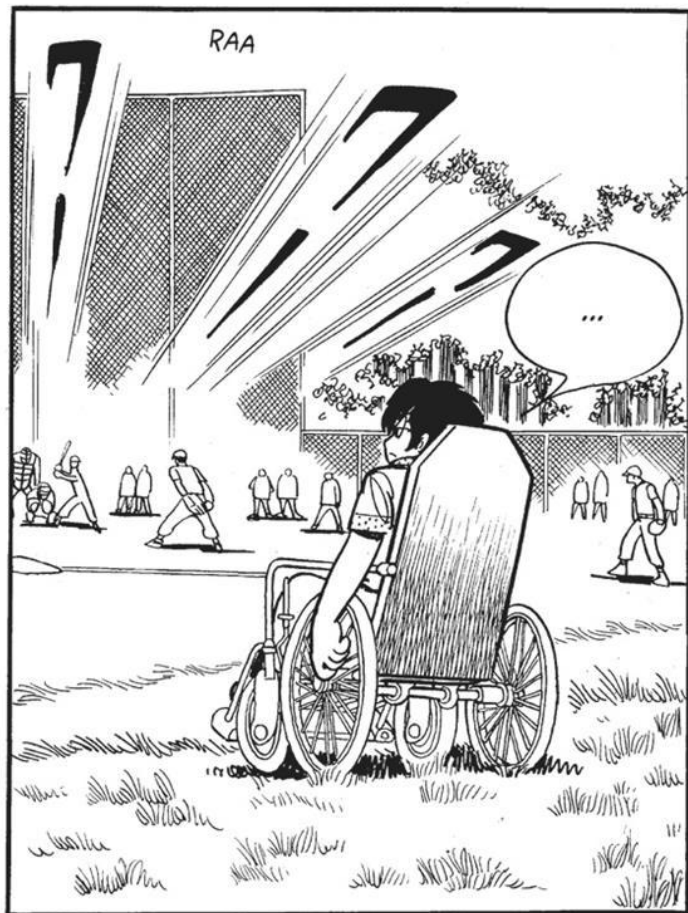


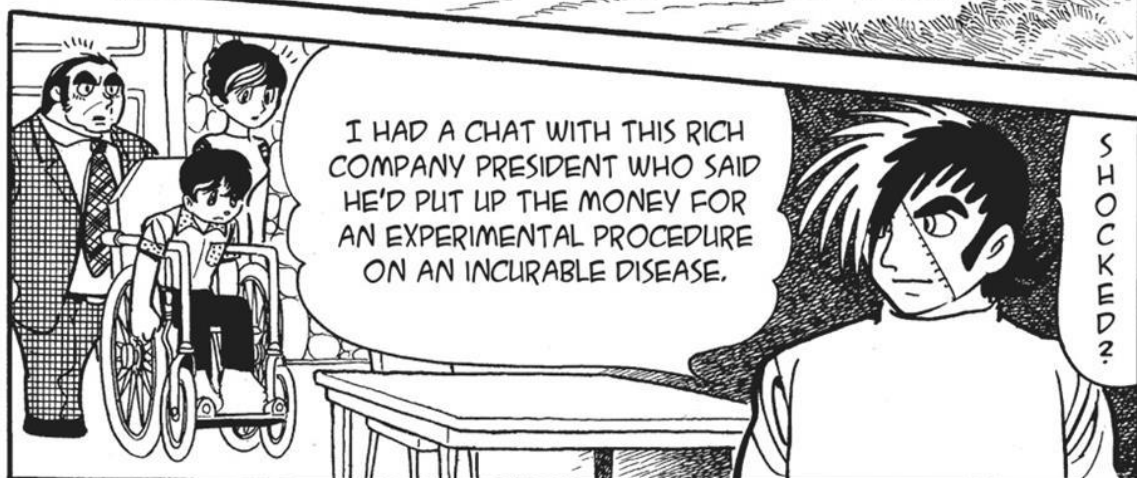
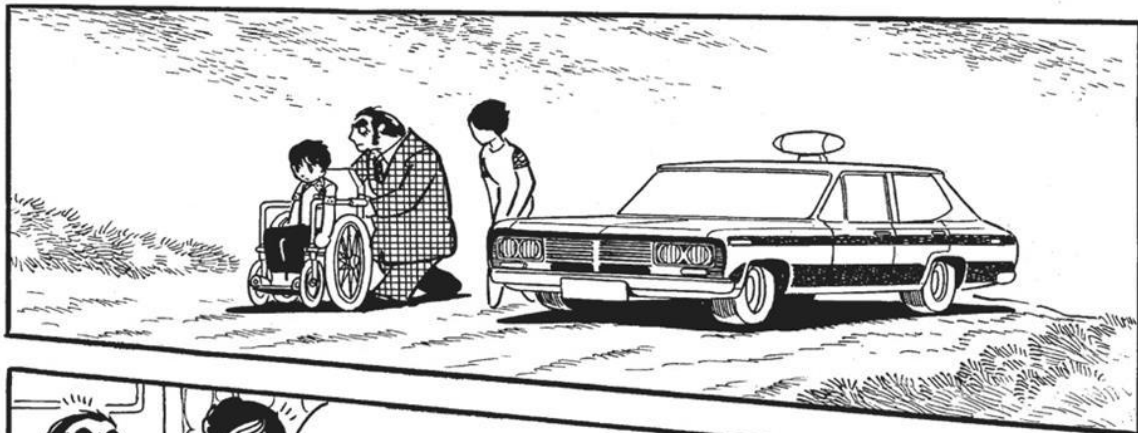
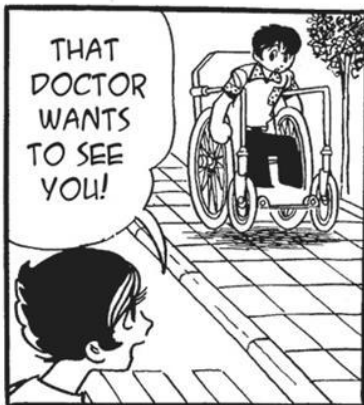




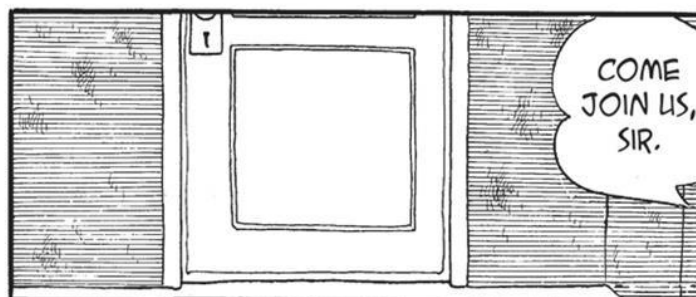


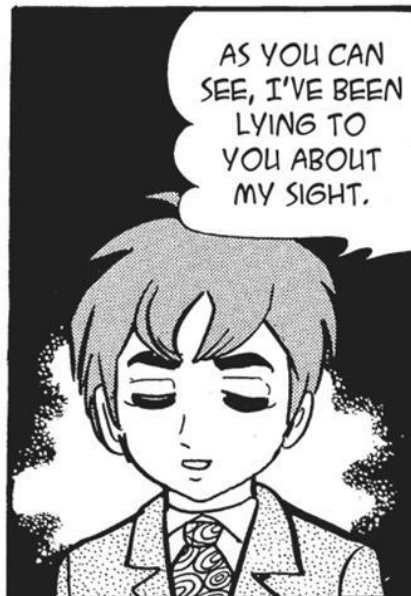
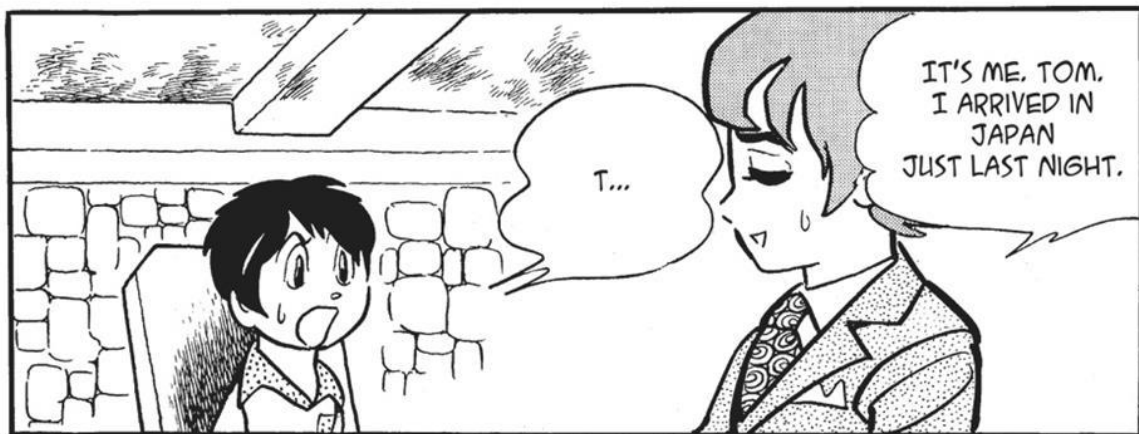
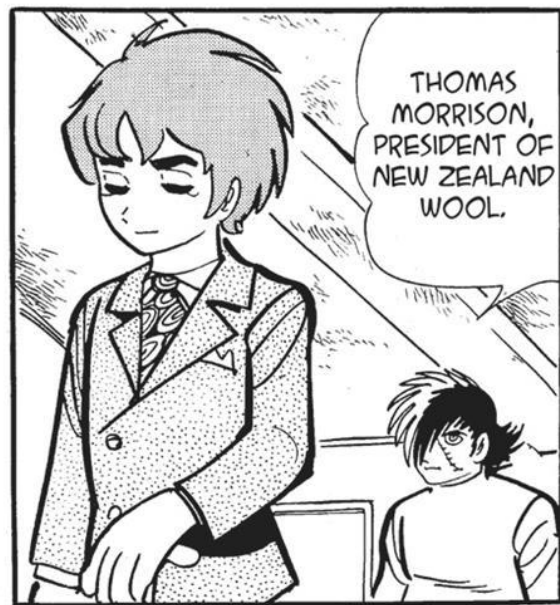




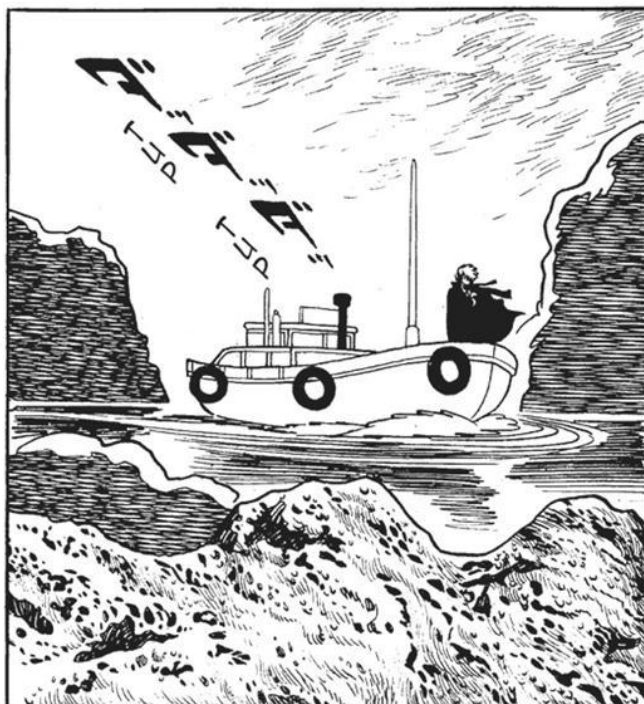
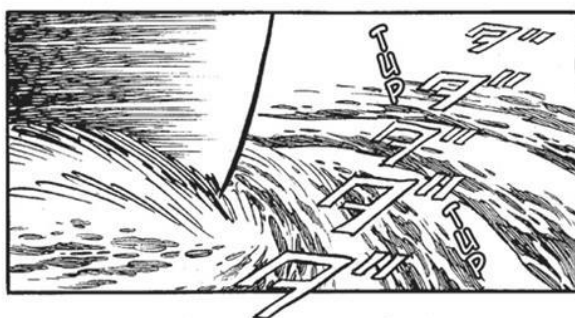
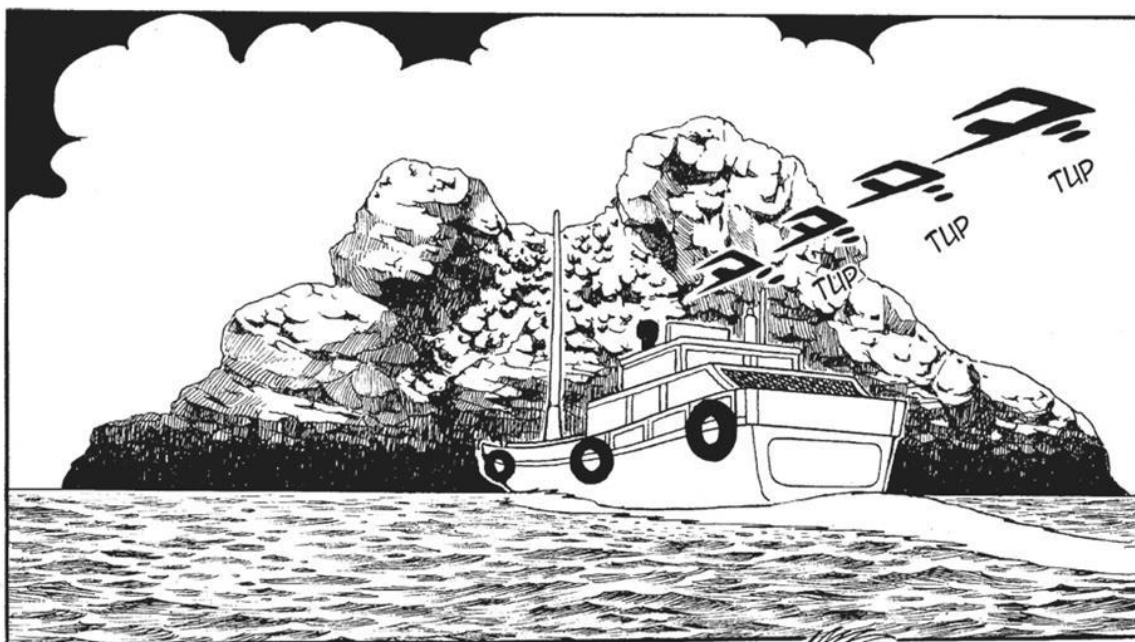


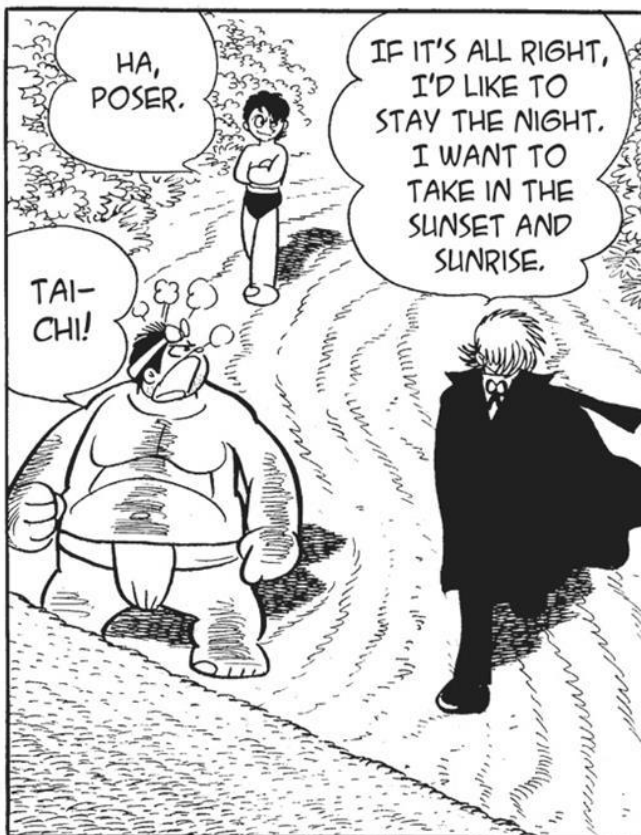






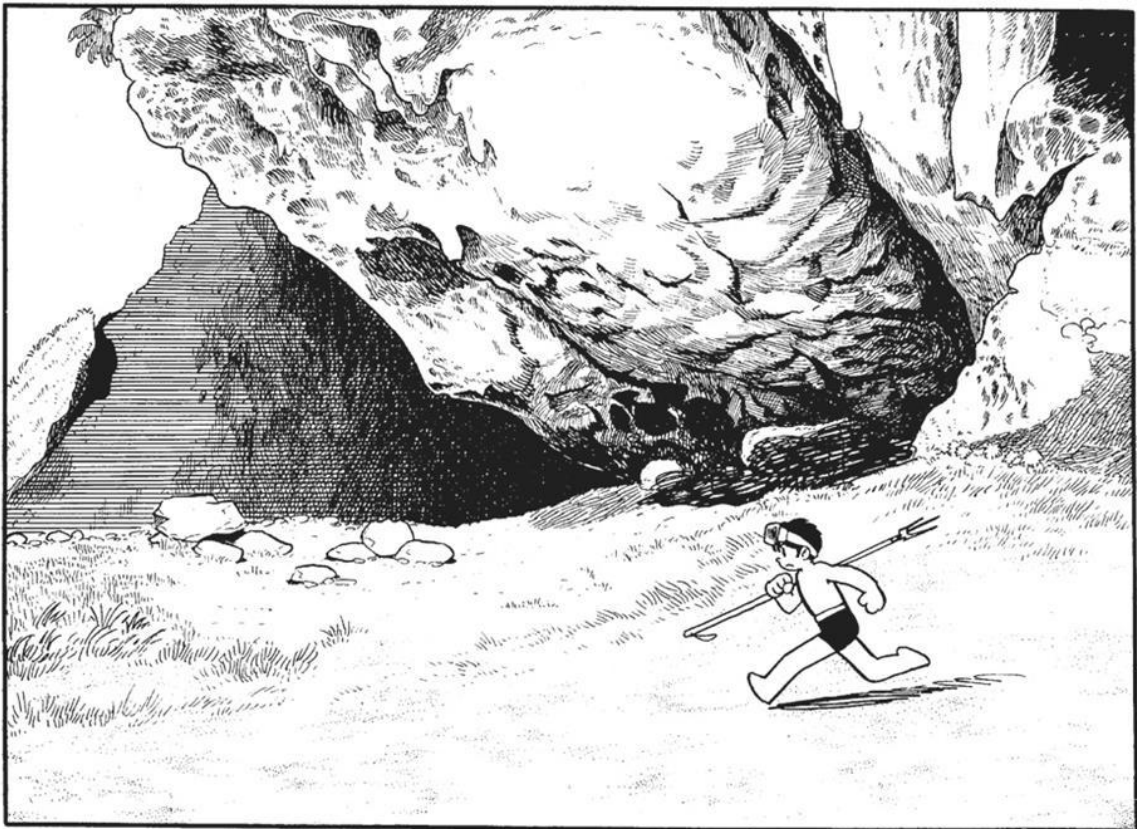
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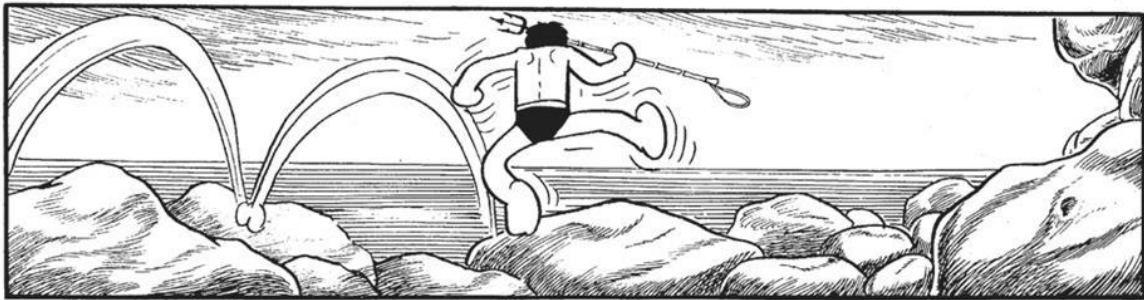


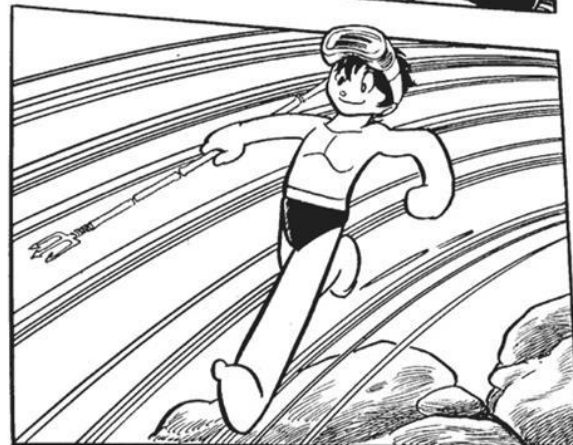
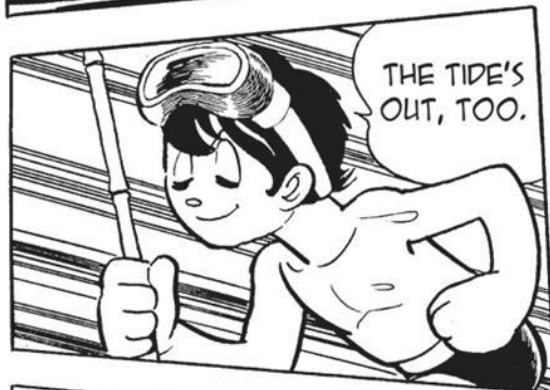
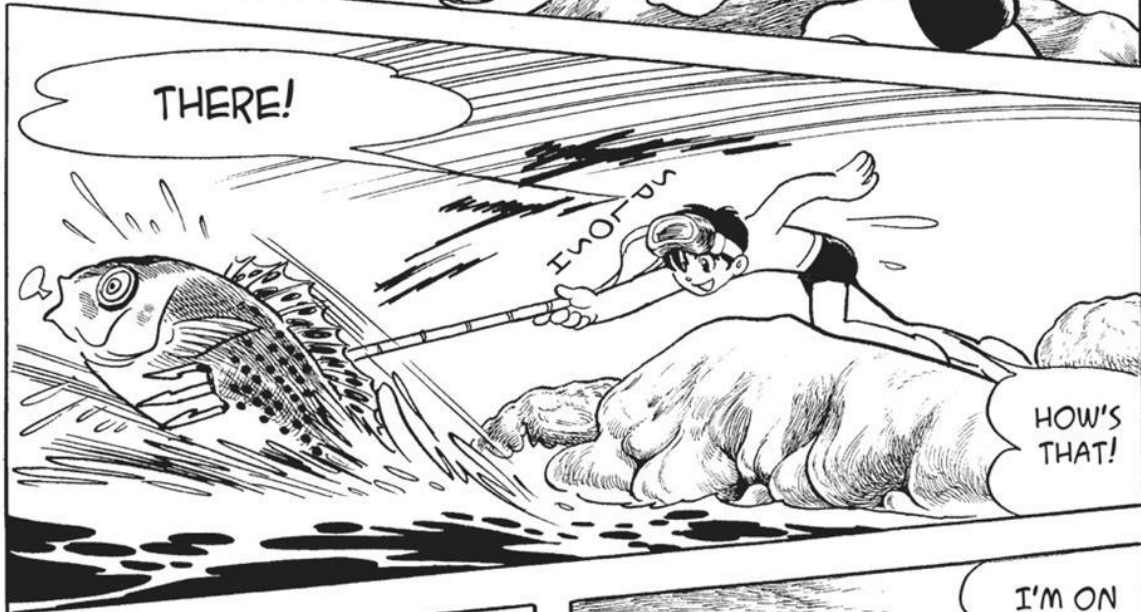


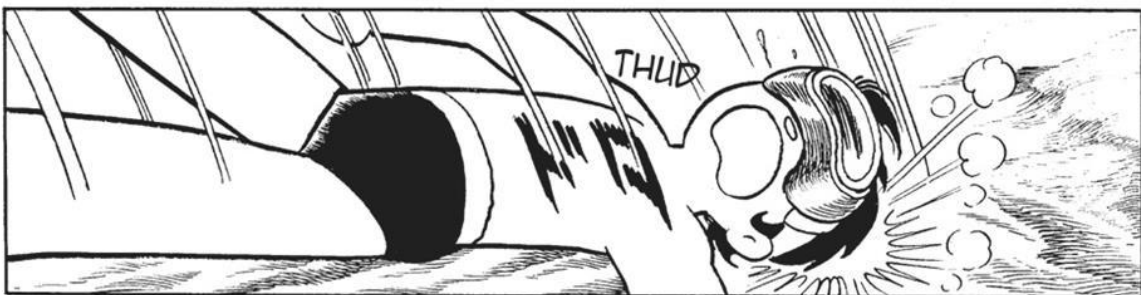
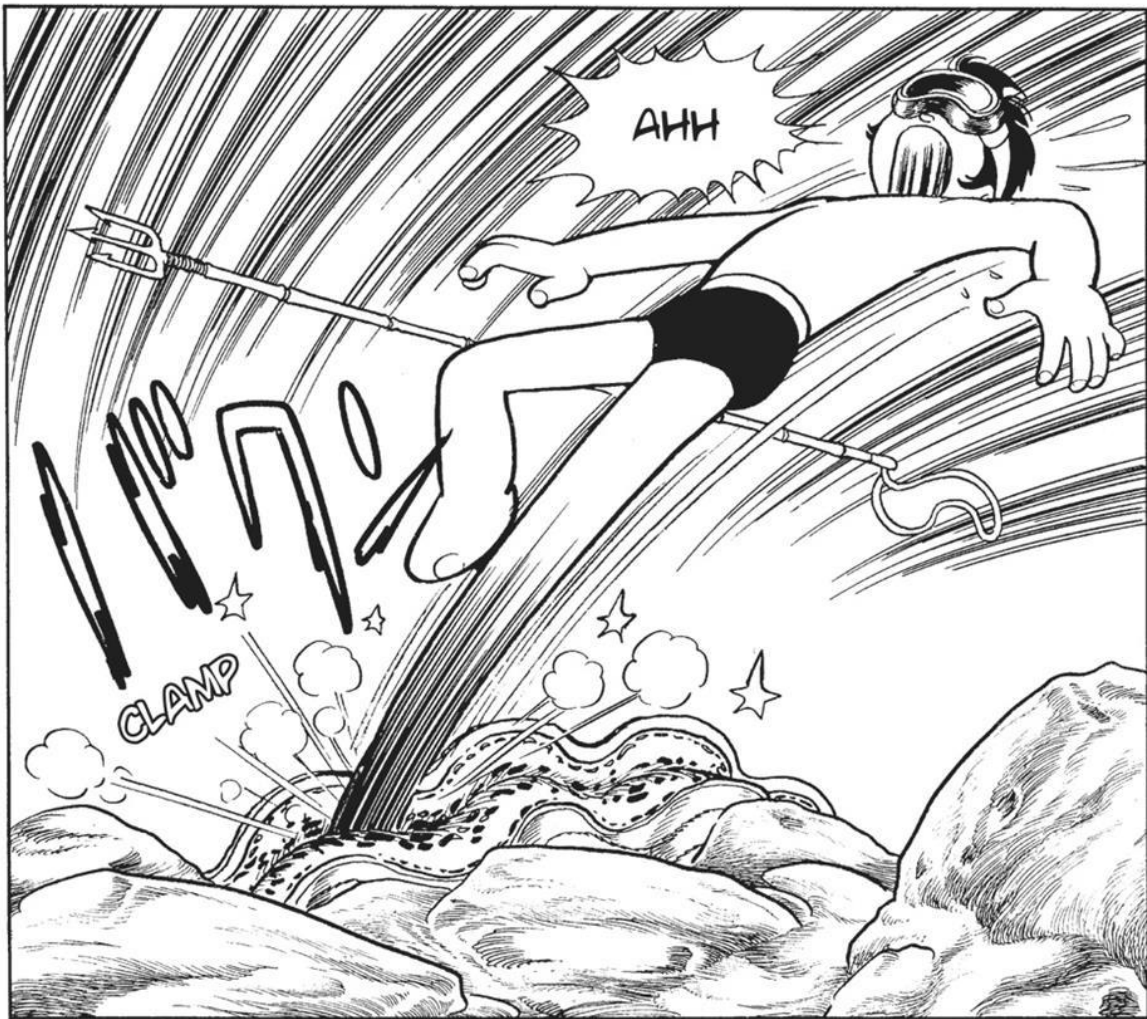


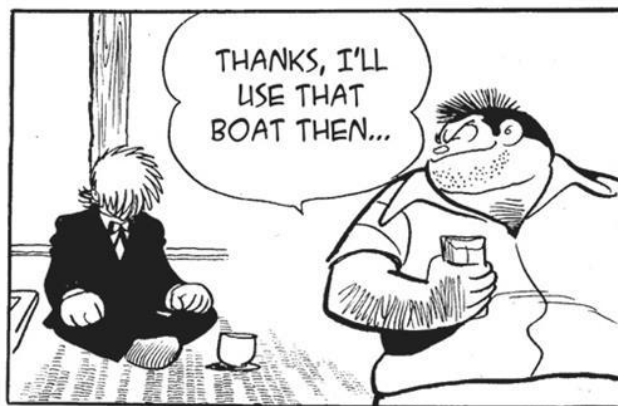
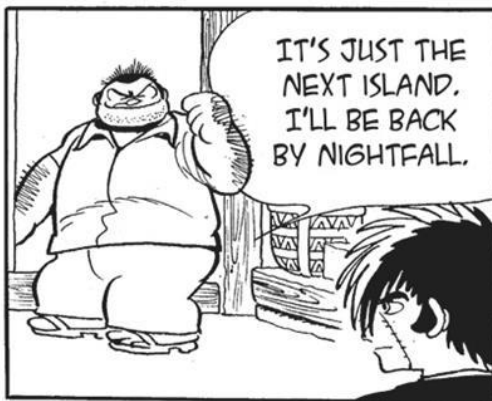


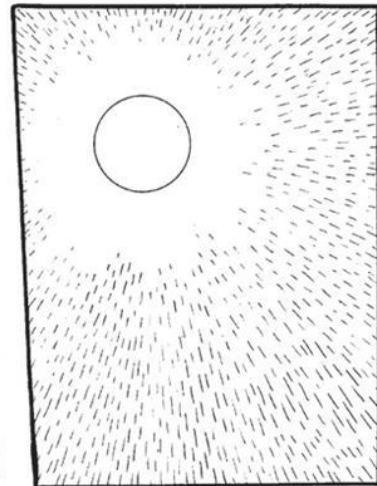
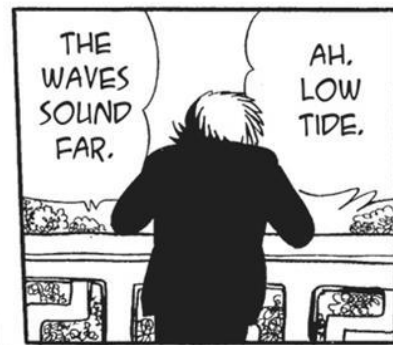
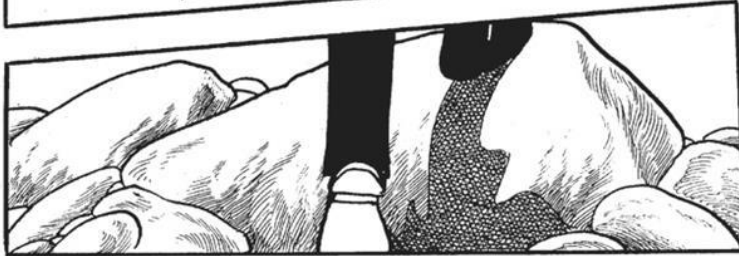




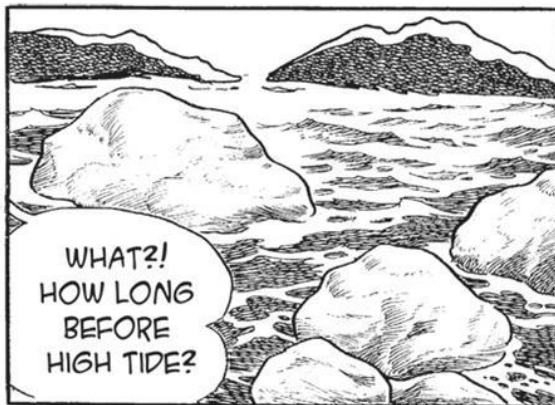




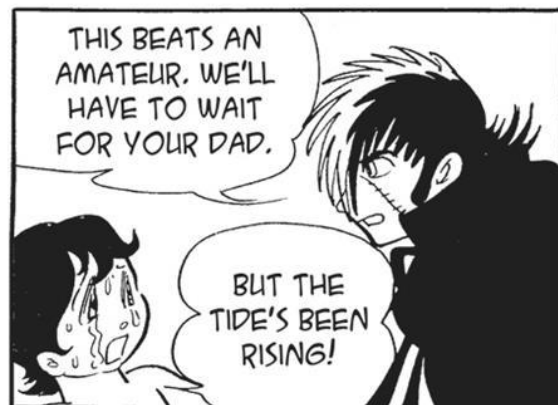








WHAT?!
HOW LONG
BEFORE
HIGH TIDE?



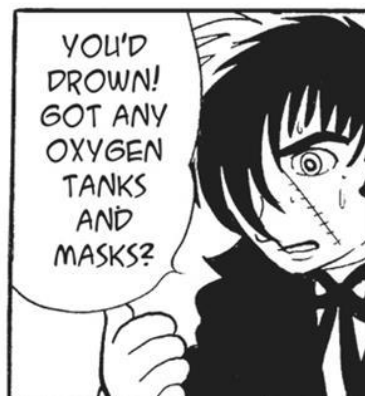
THIS BEATS AN
AMATEUR. WE'LL
HAVE TO WAIT
FOR YOUR DAD.

BUT THE
TIDE'S BEEN
RISING!



IN THE
STORE
ROOM.

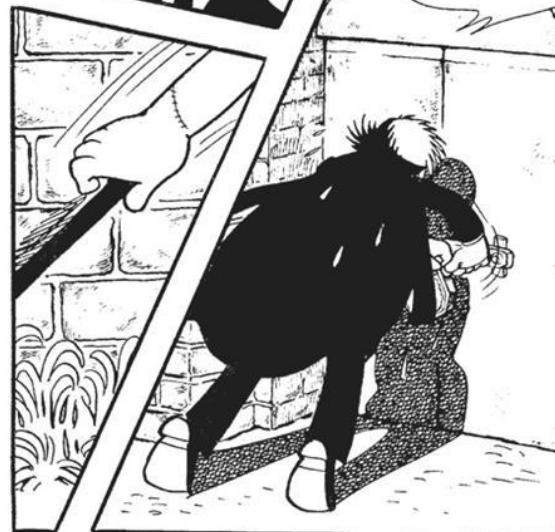
I'LL BE
BACK.



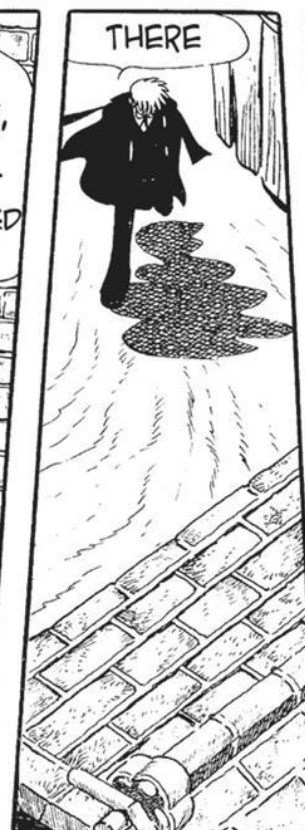
YOU'D
DROWN!
GOT ANY
OXYGEN
TANKS
AND
MASKS?



DUNNO...
TWO HOURS?
IT'LL BE TWICE
MY HEIGHT.



A PADLOCK,
CRAP!!
POPS MUST
HAVE LOCKED
UP!



THERE

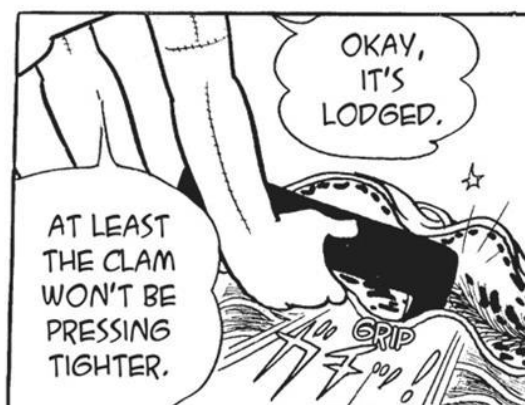
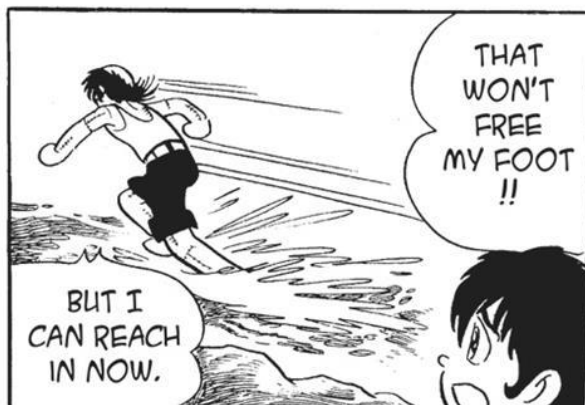
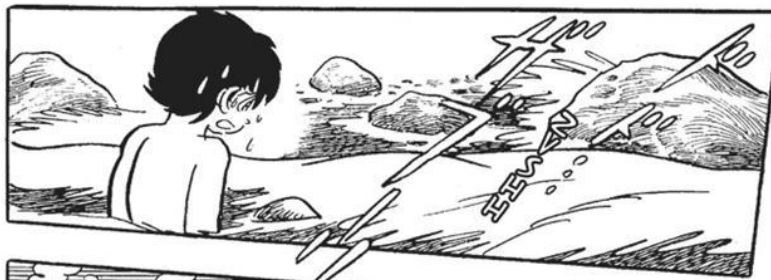


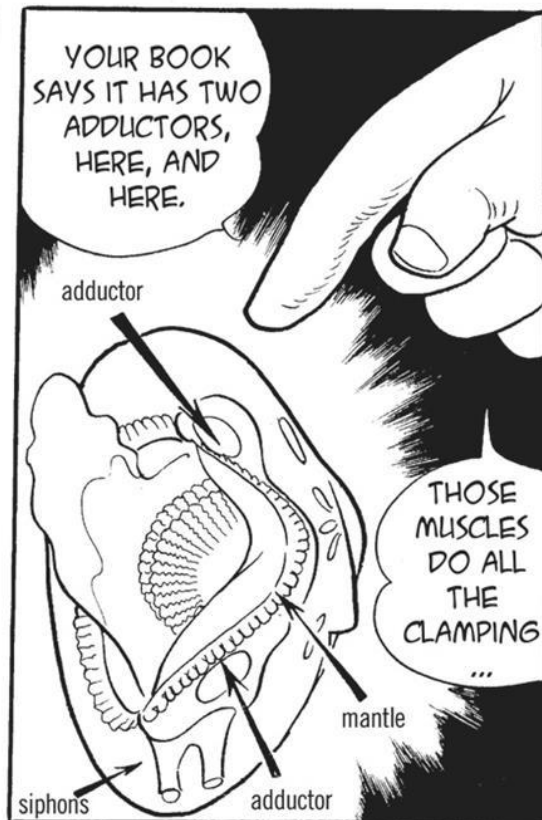
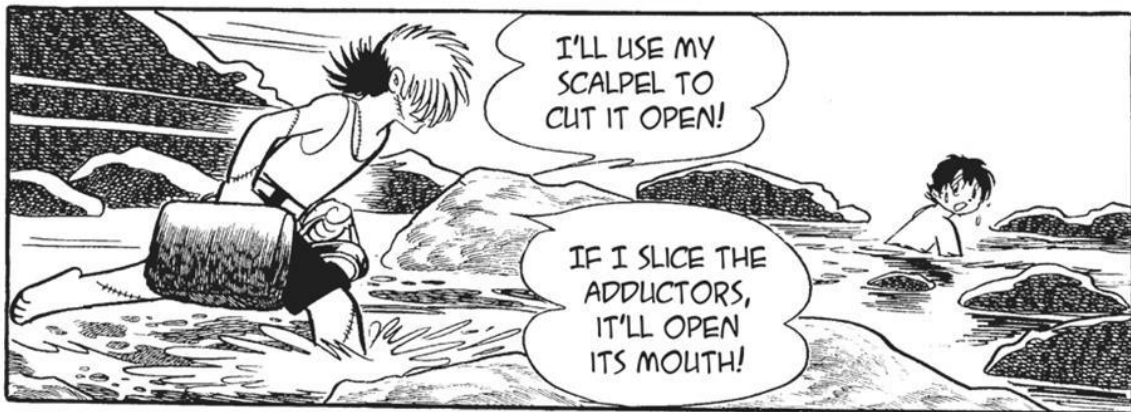
HAA

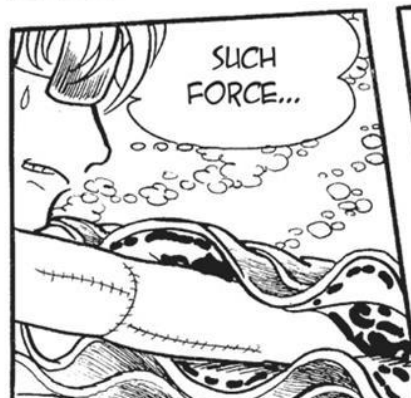
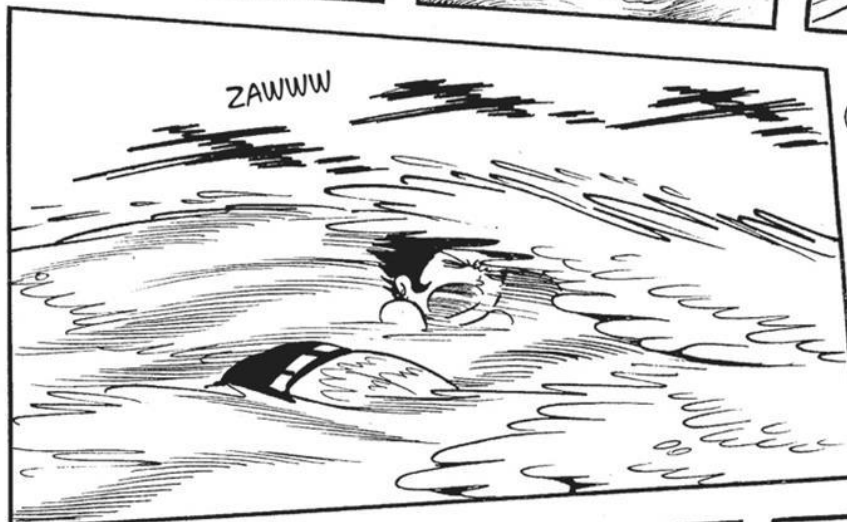
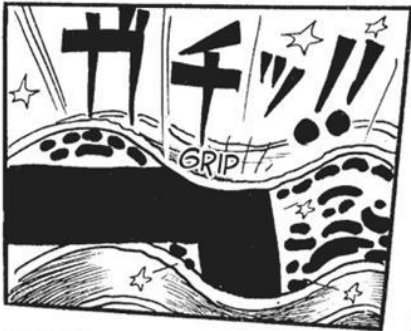
HAA

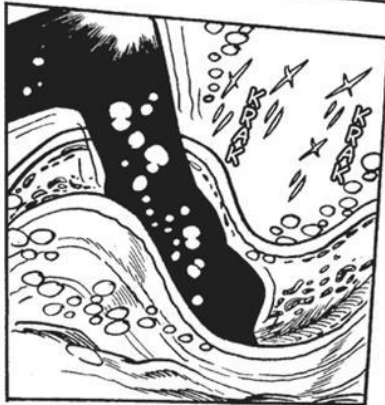
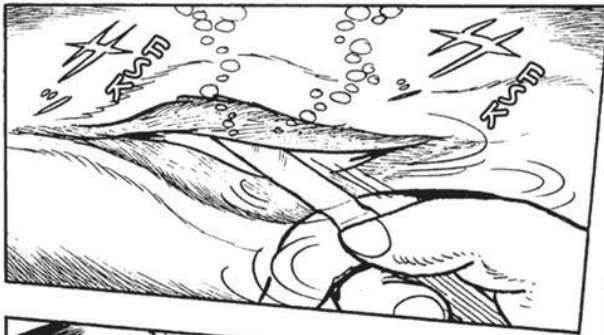
HUFF

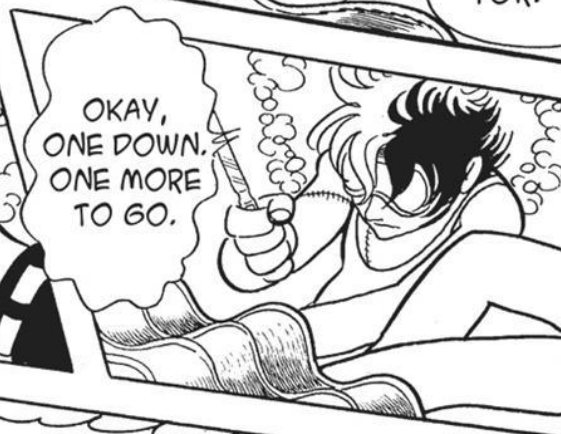
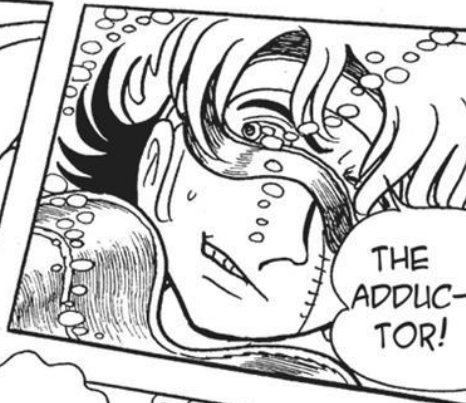
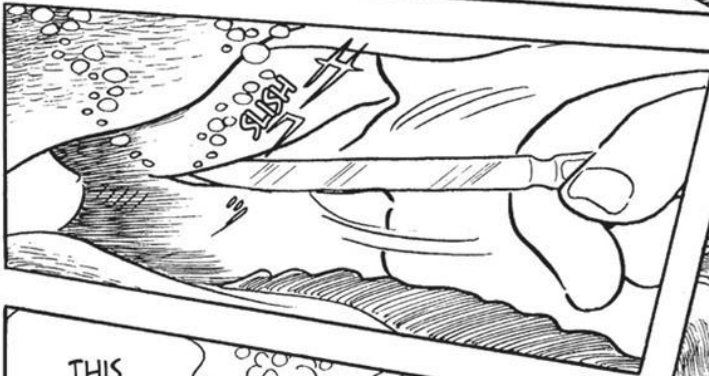
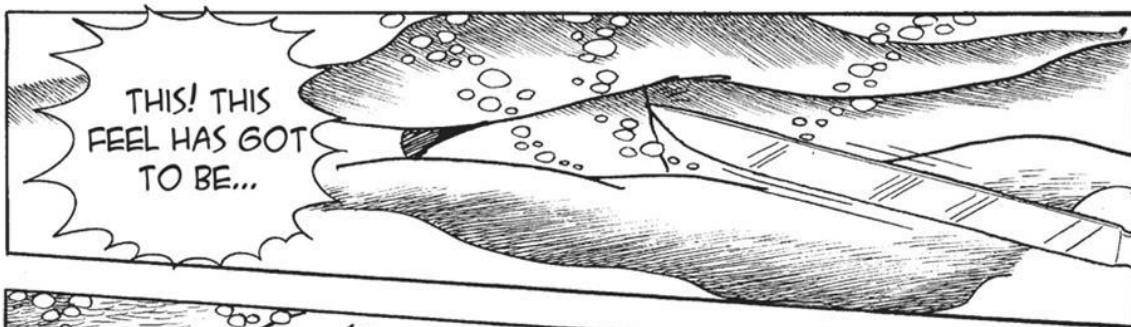


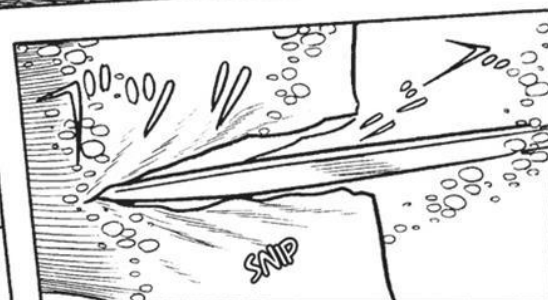
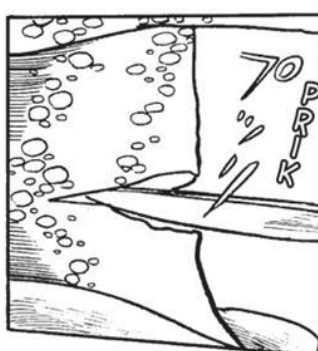
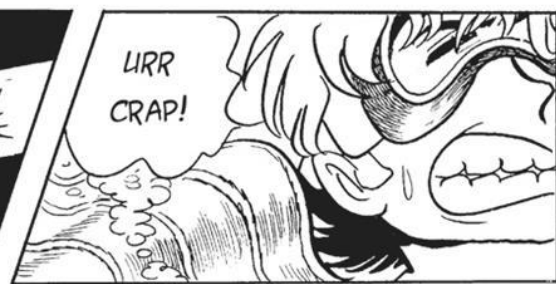
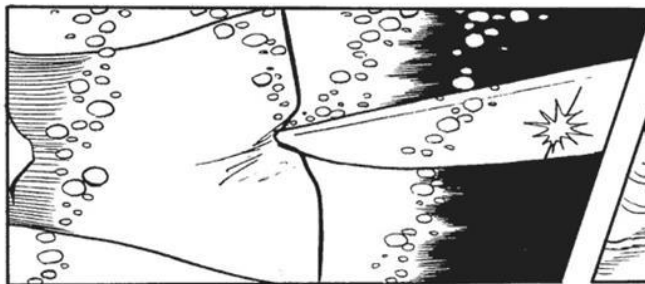
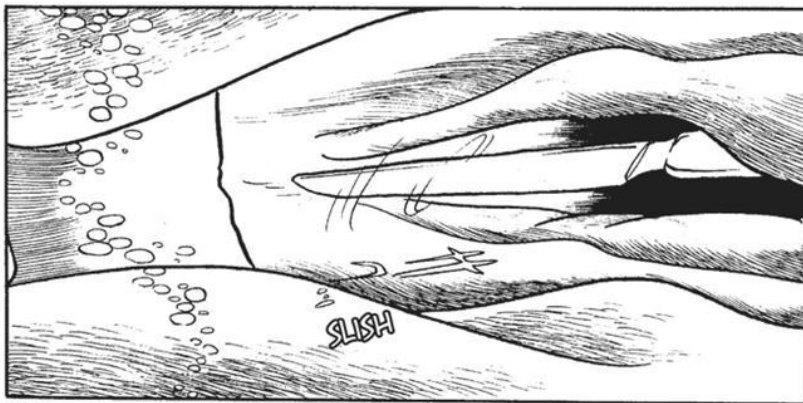








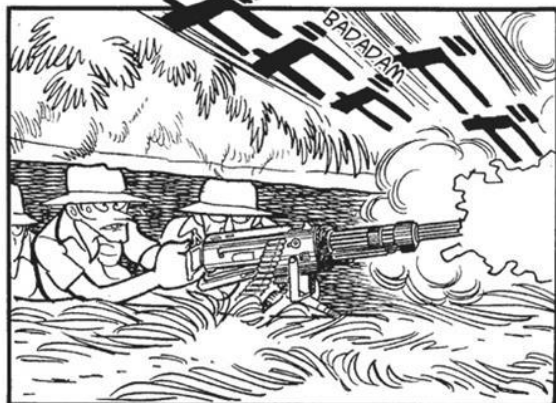
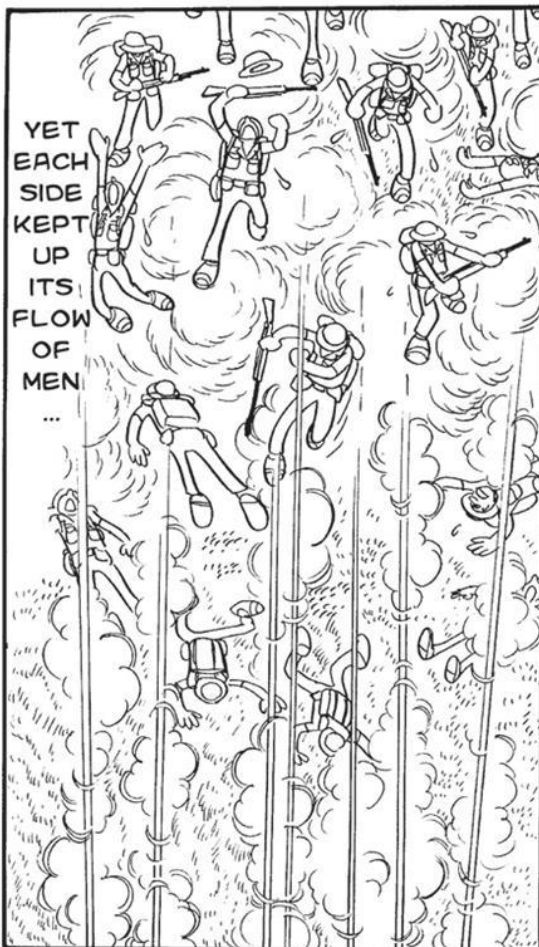
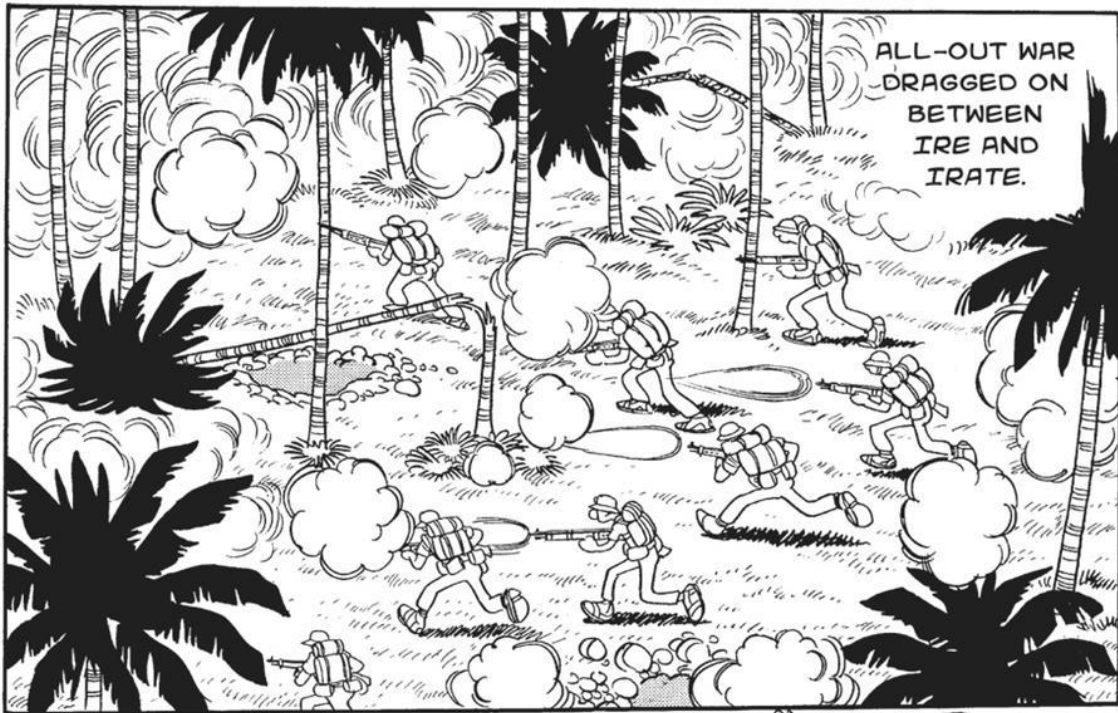


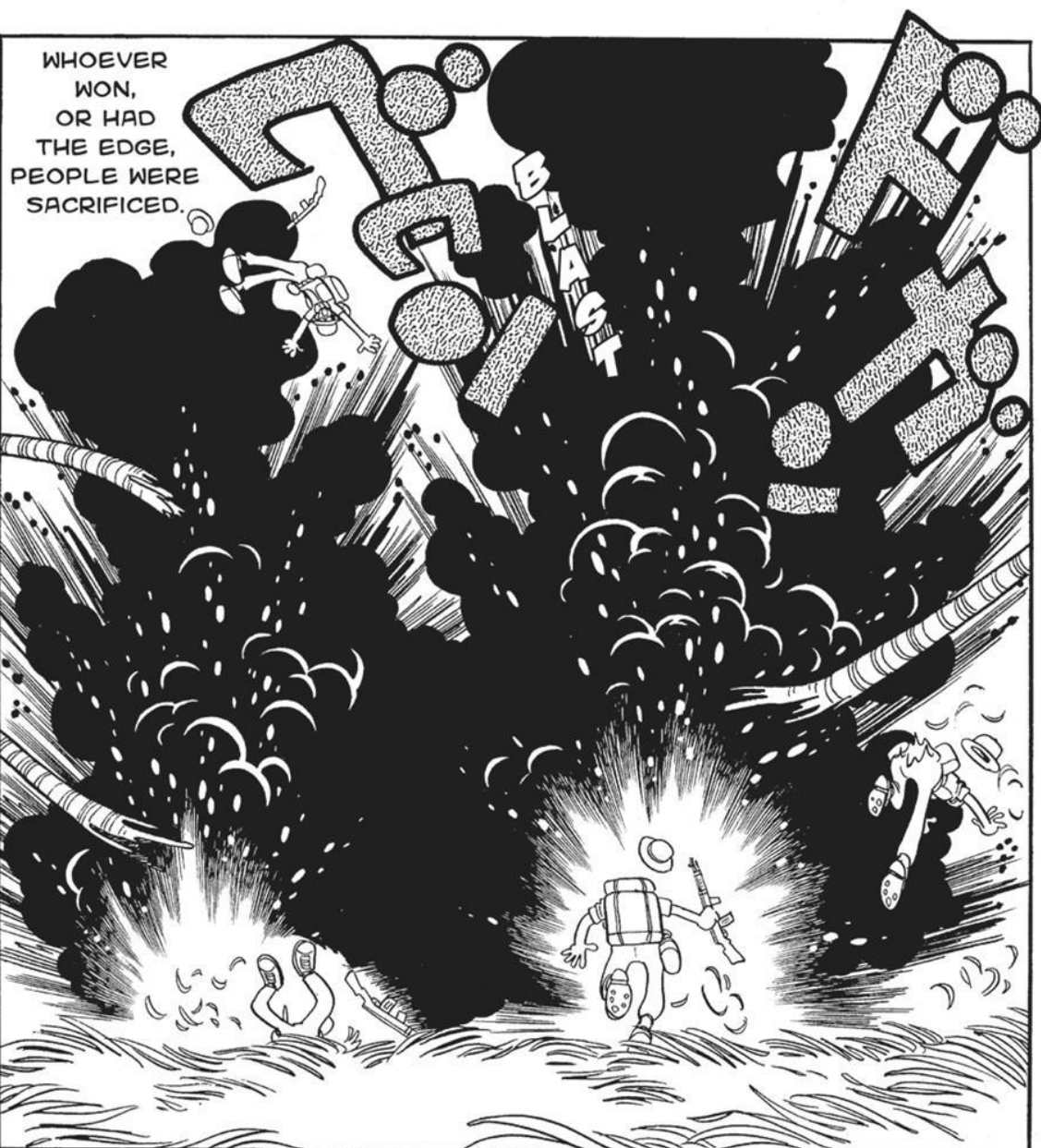


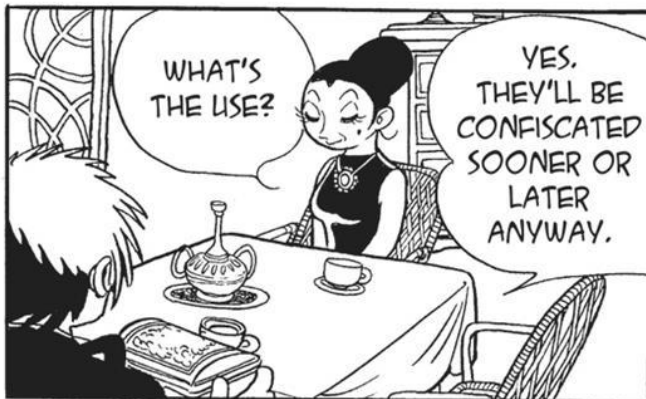


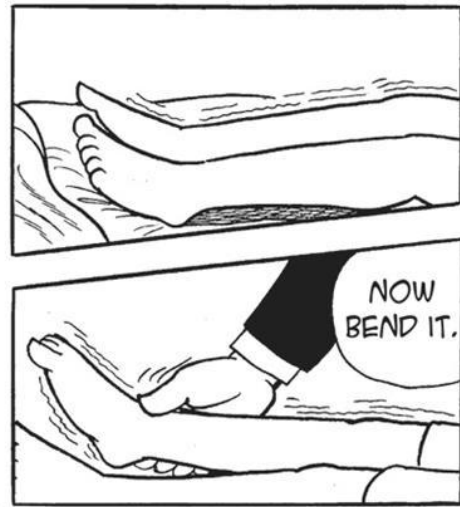
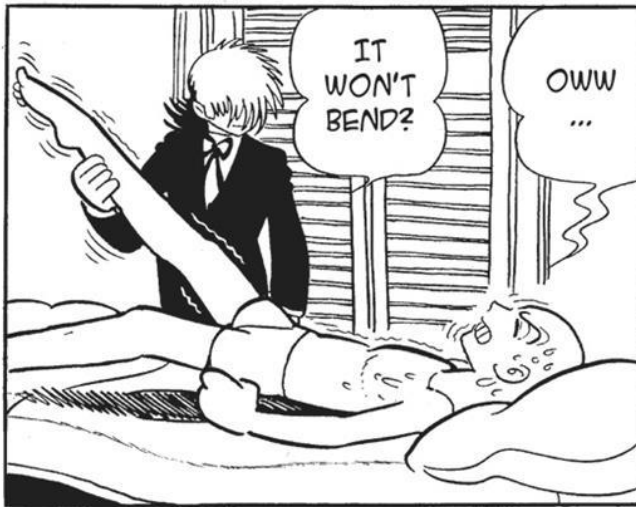


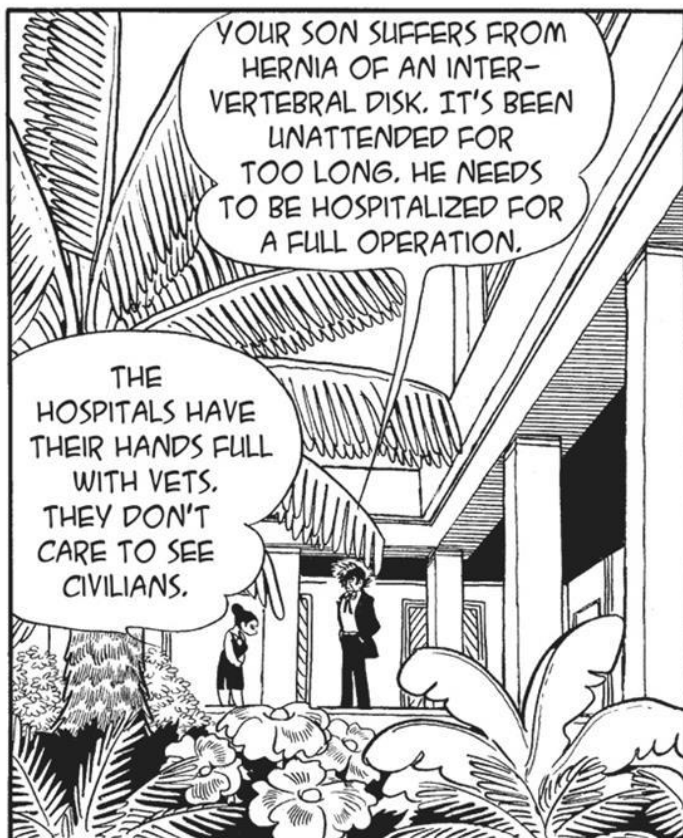
THE WAR NEVER ENDS



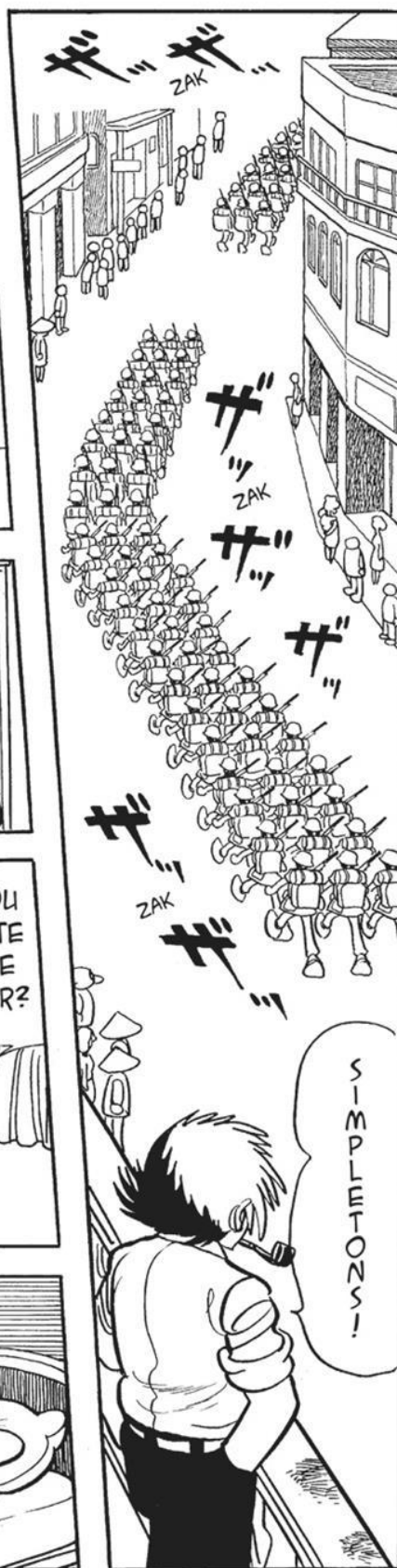


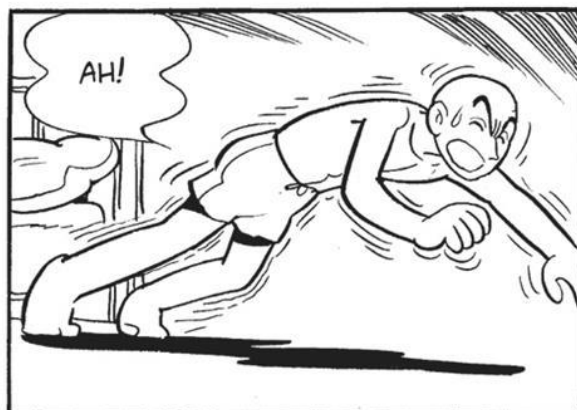


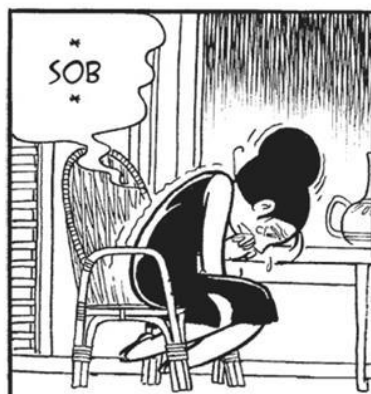


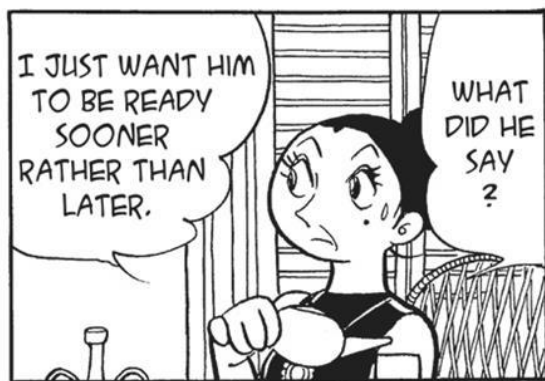
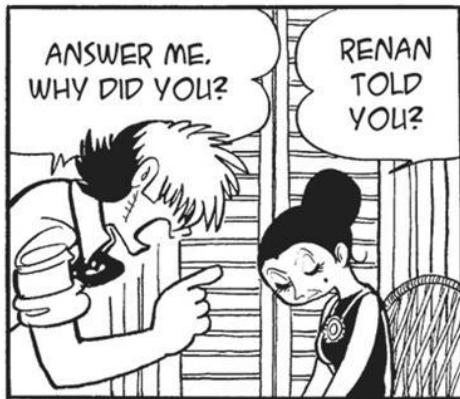


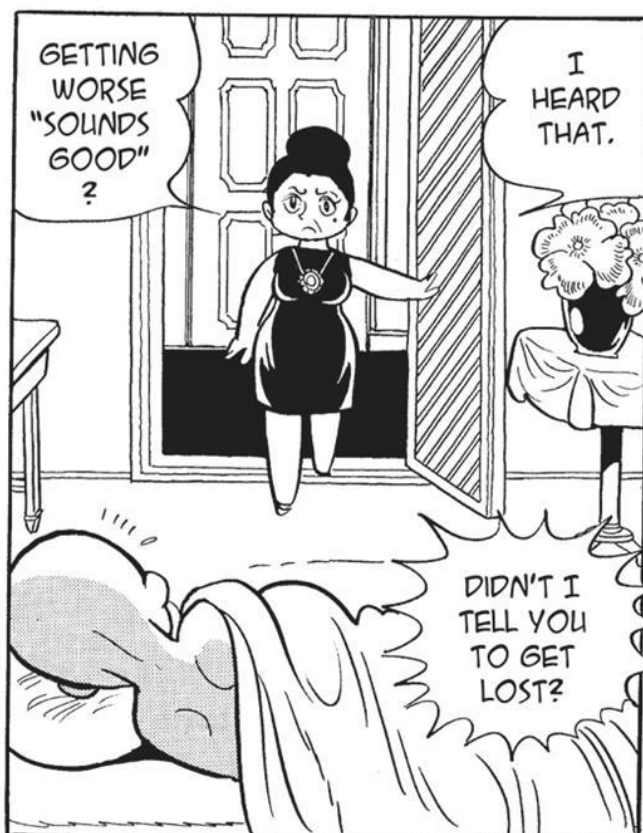
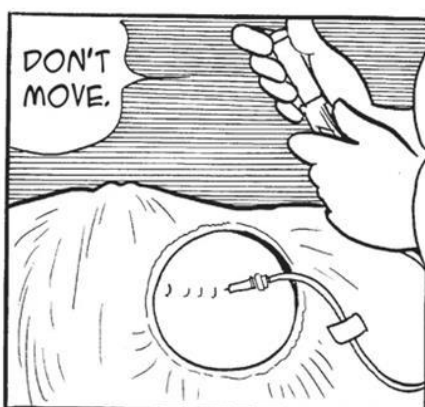


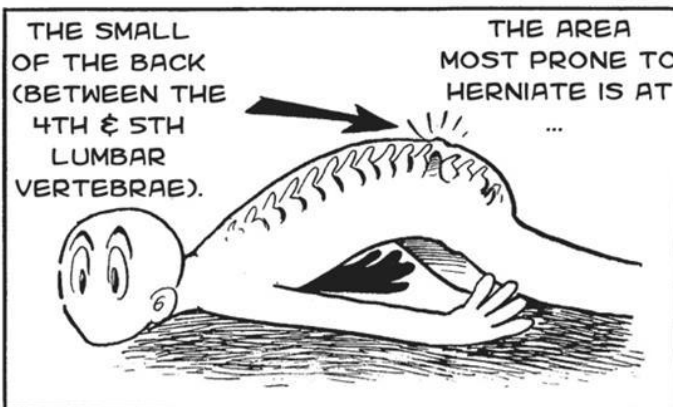
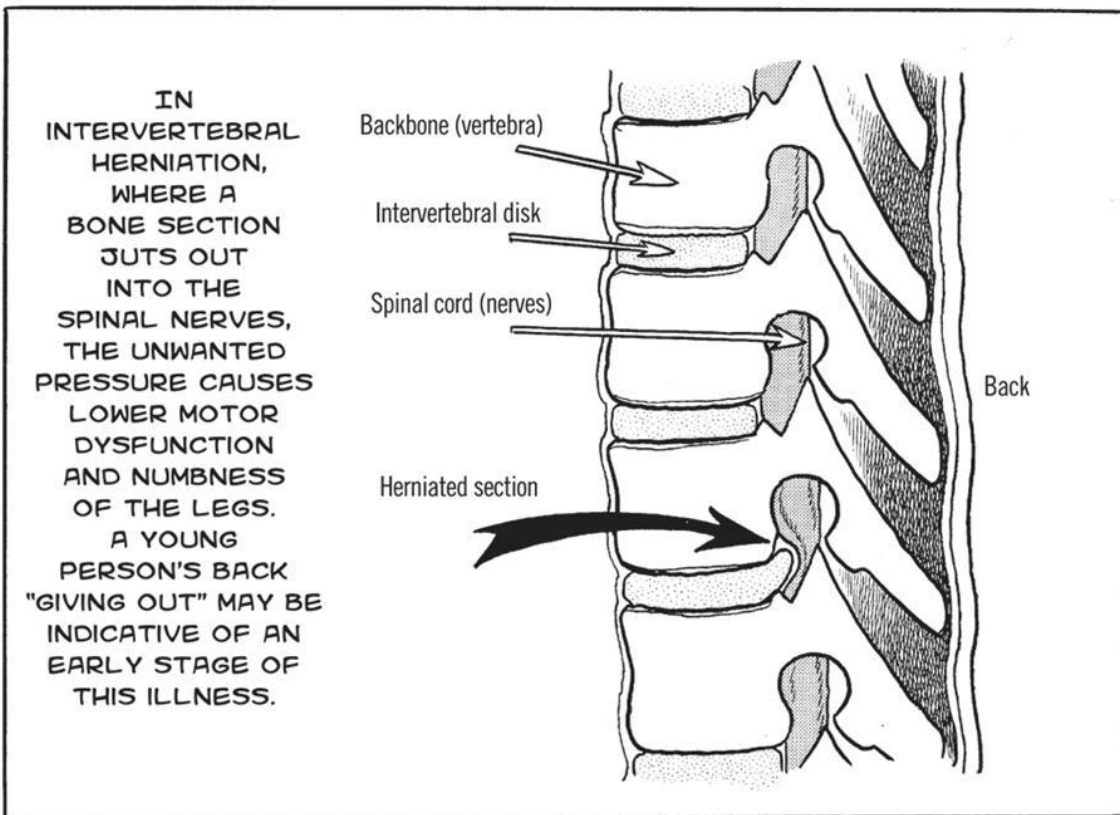




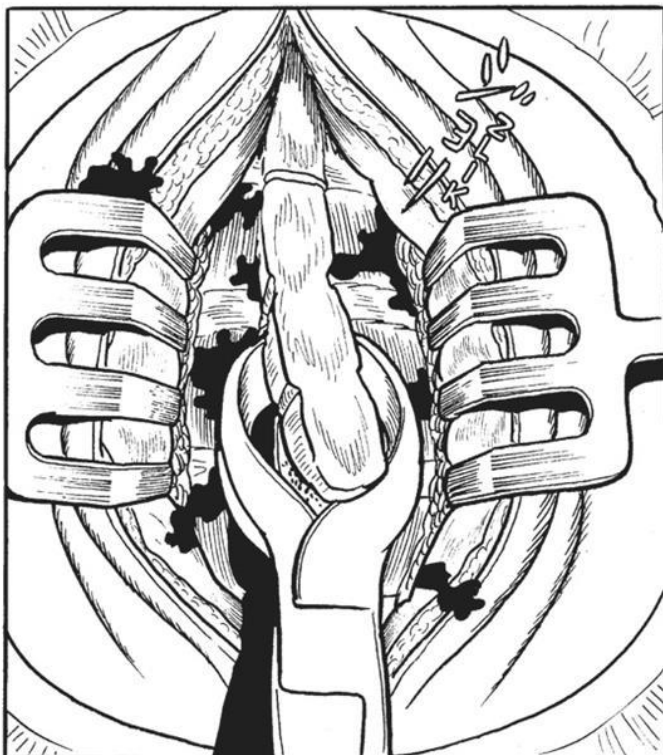
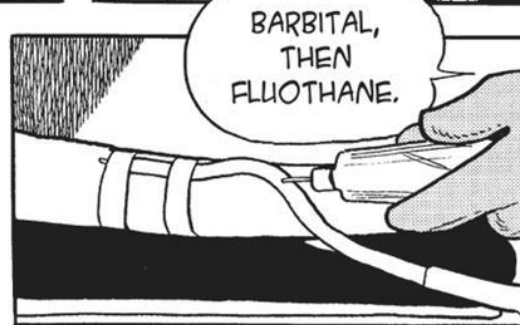








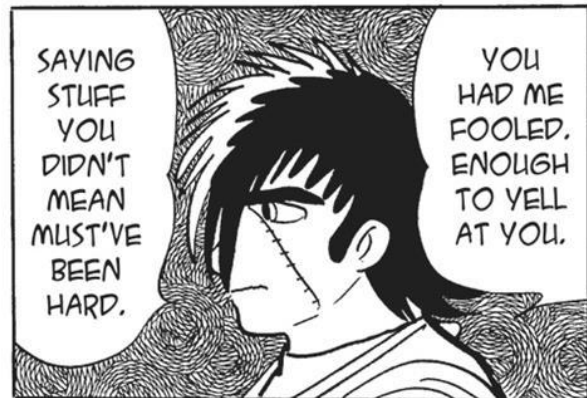
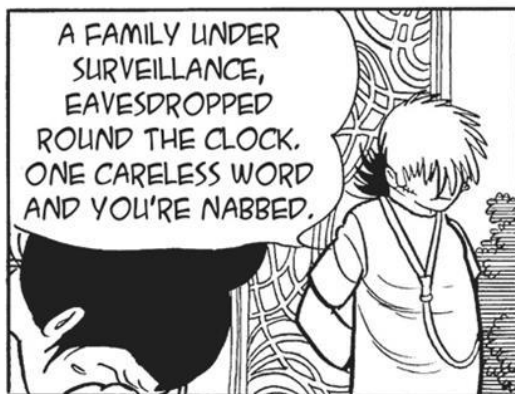


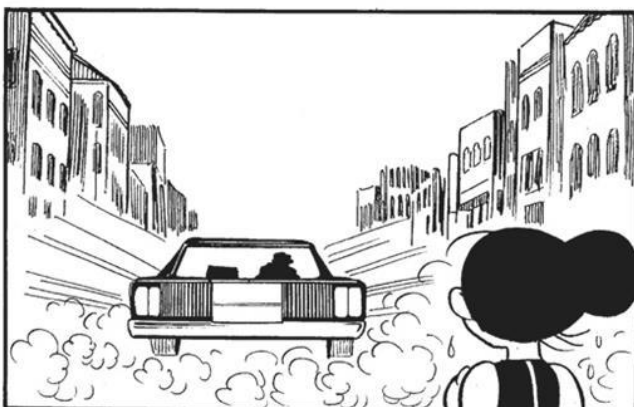
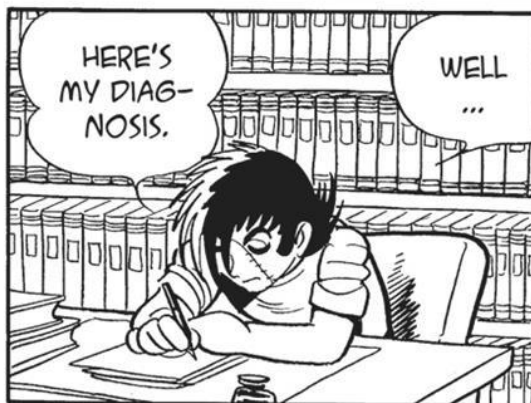








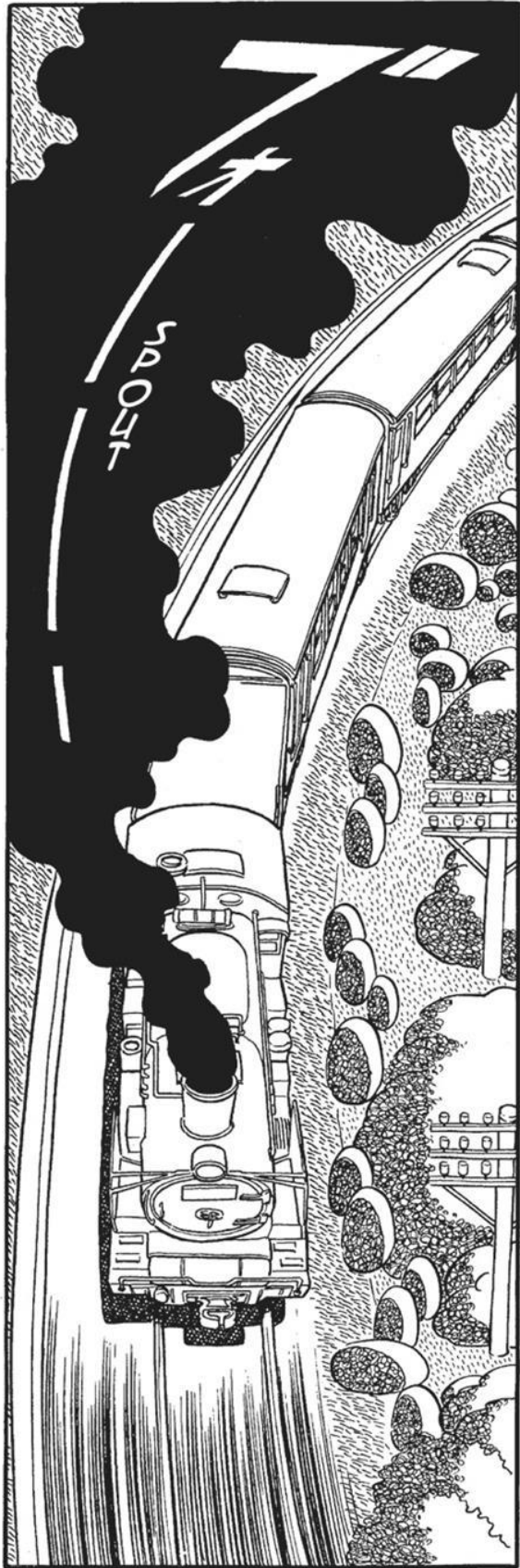
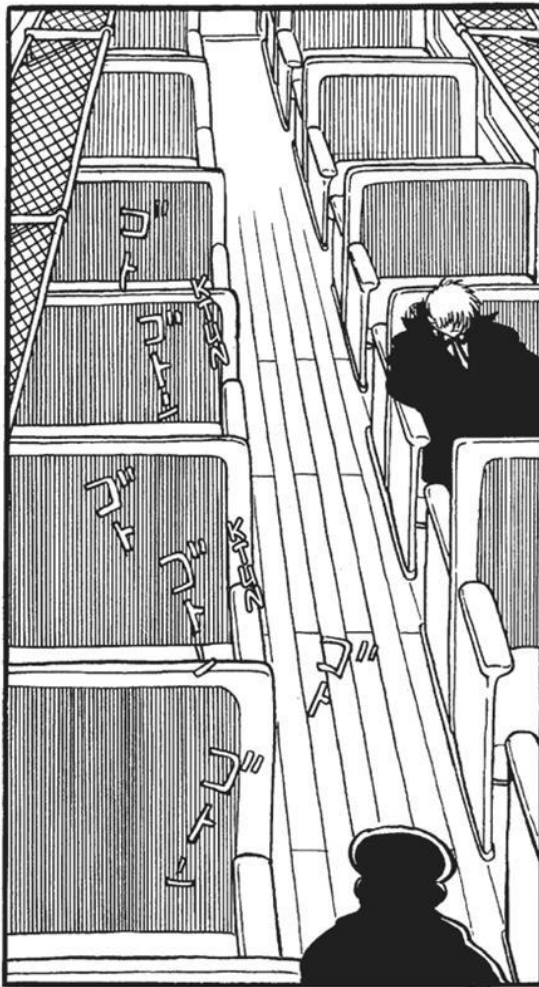




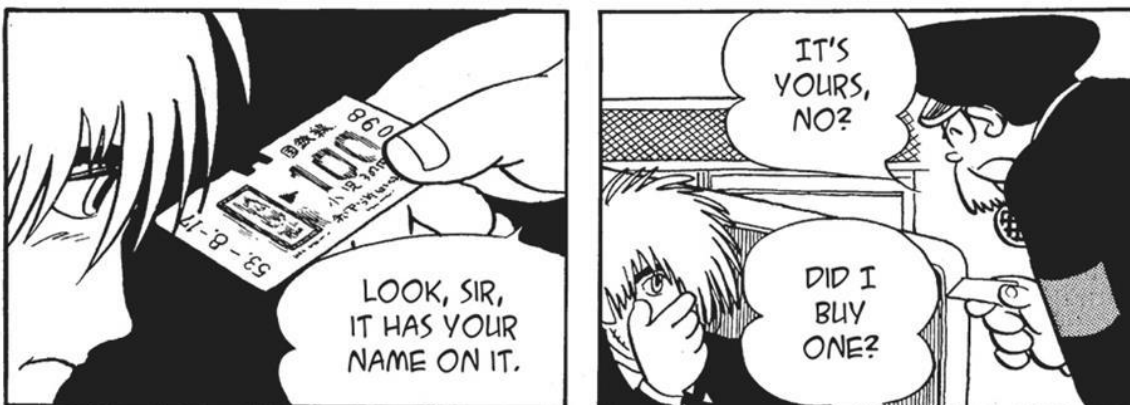
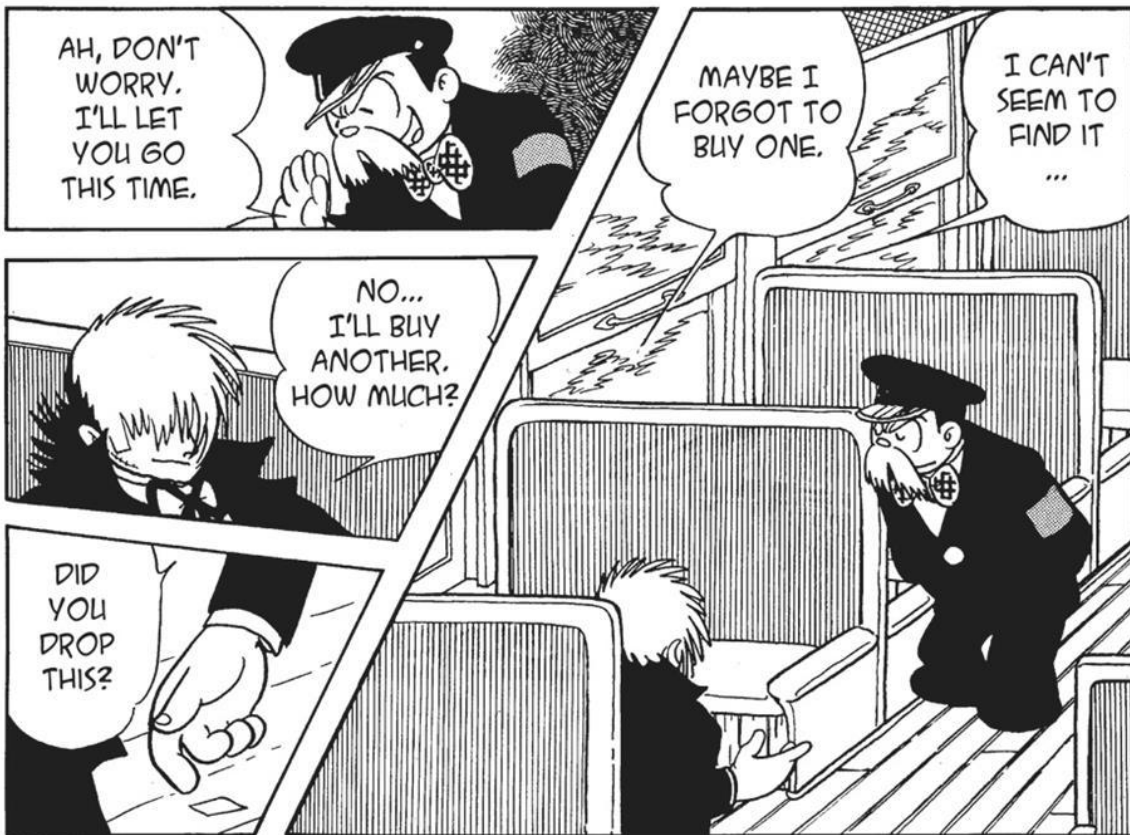
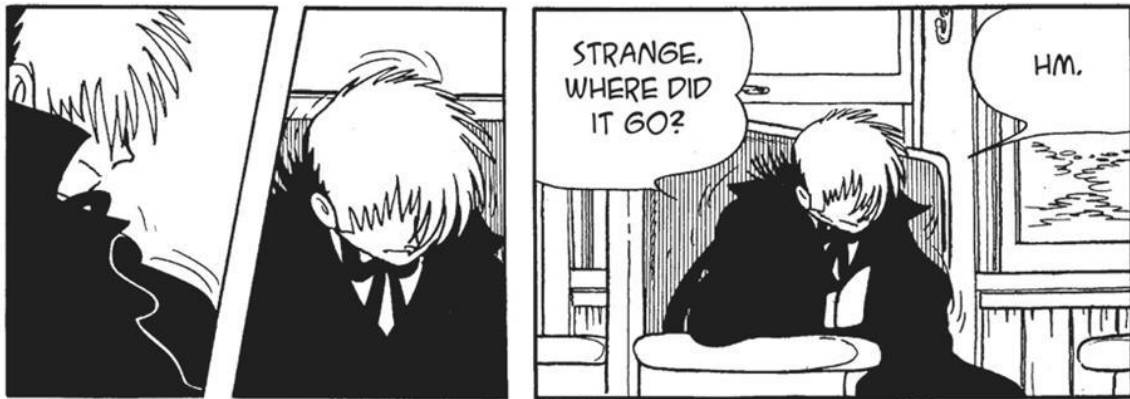
NATURALLY, UNTIL THE WAR ENDS.

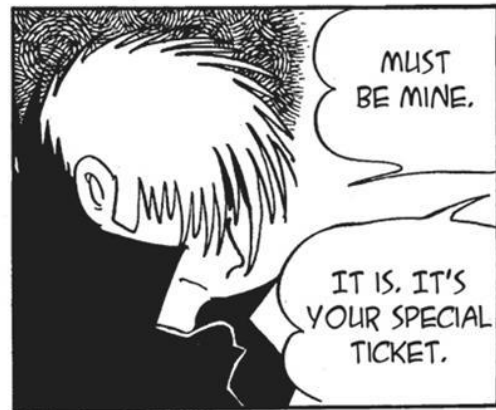


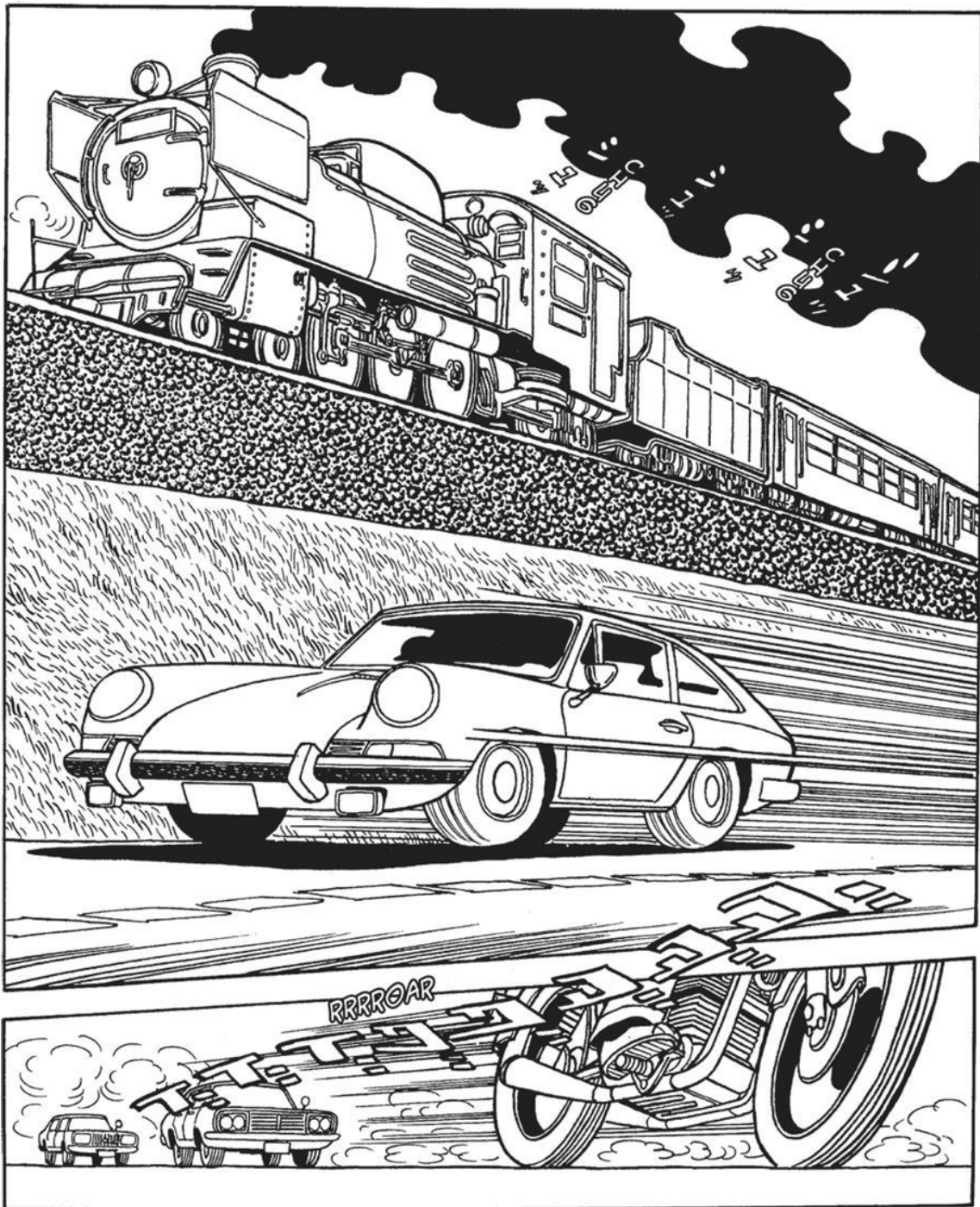
THE SL CALLED LIFE

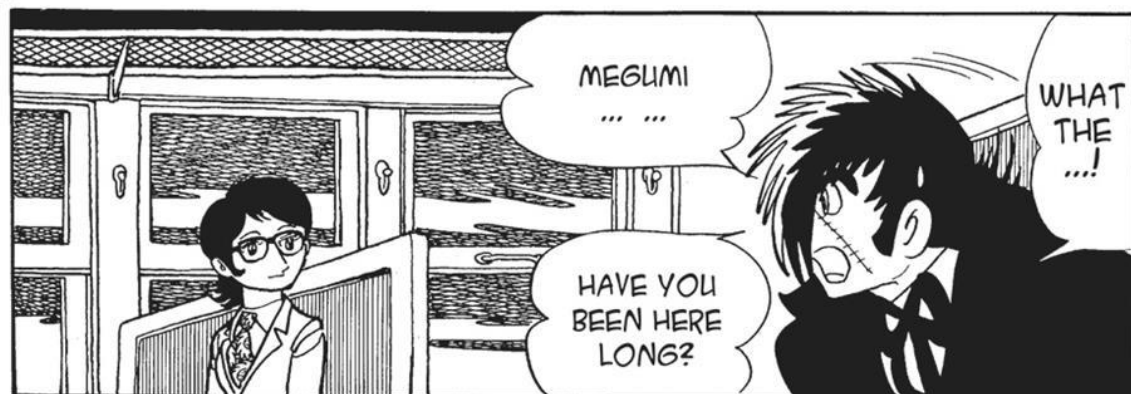
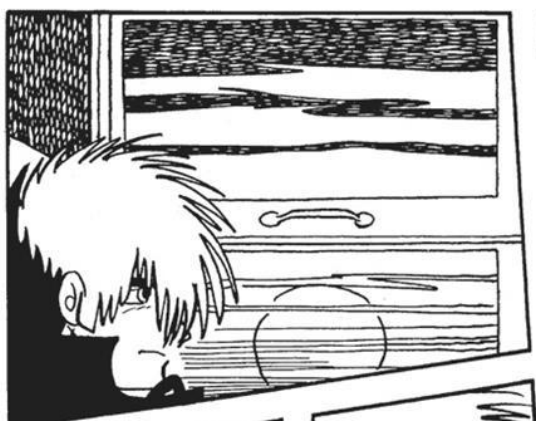


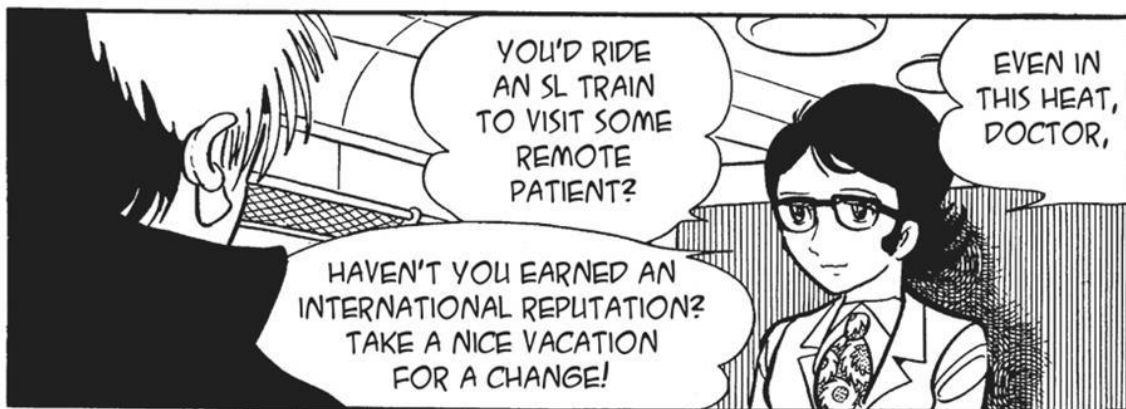
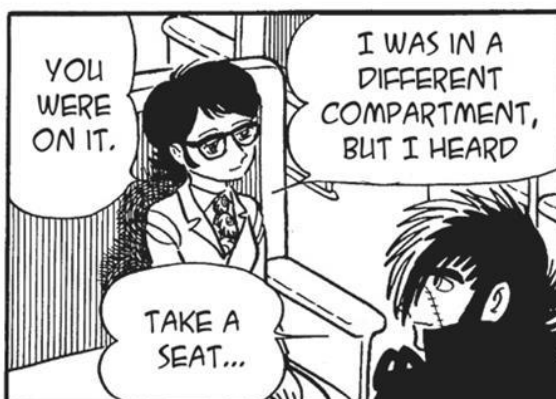
NOTE: "SL" = A COMMON JAPANESE ABBREVIATION FOR STEAM LOCOMOTIVE

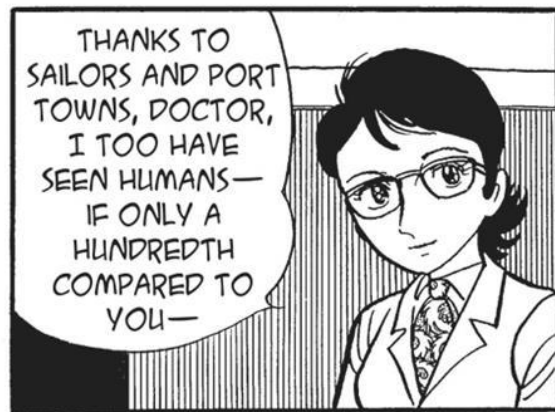


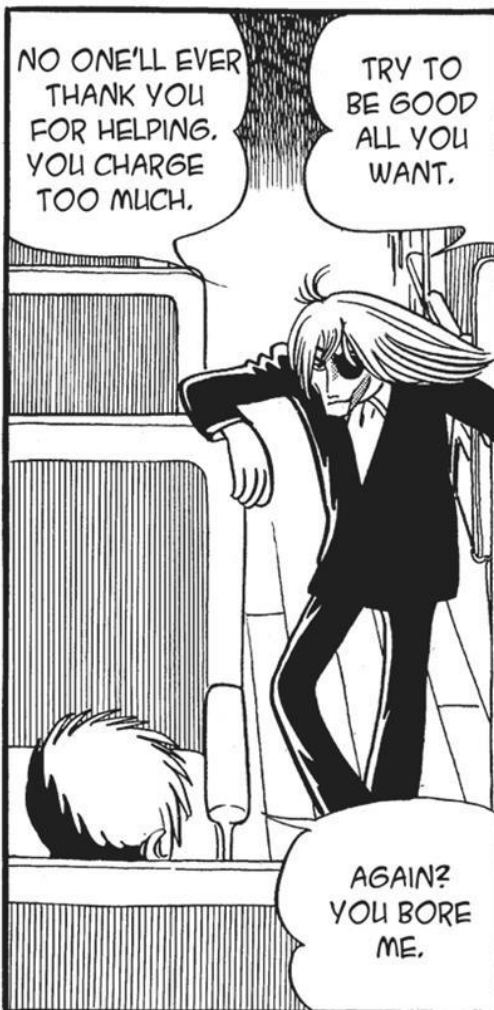
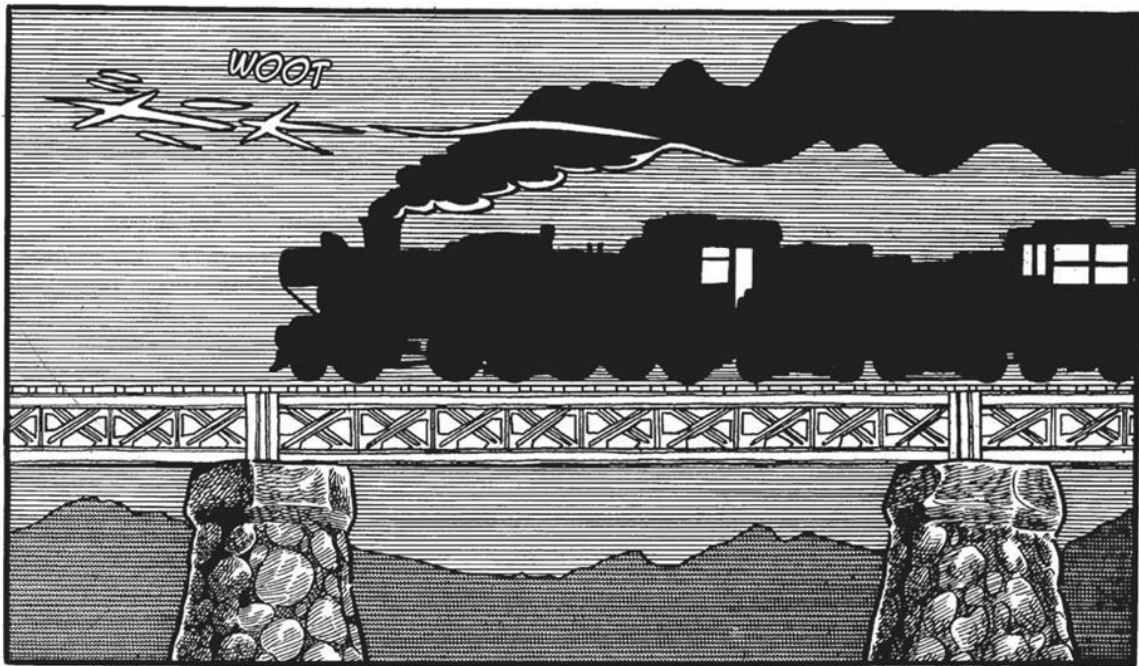


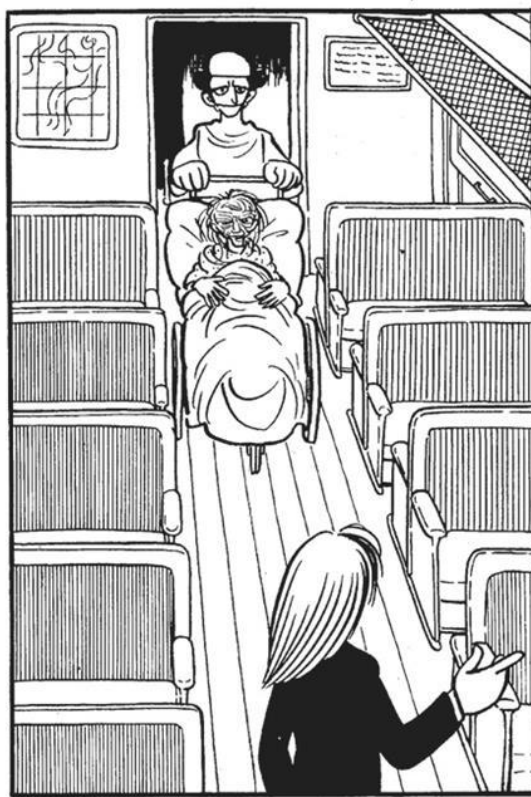
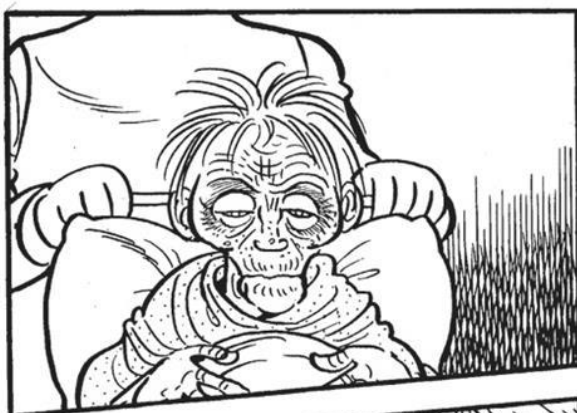
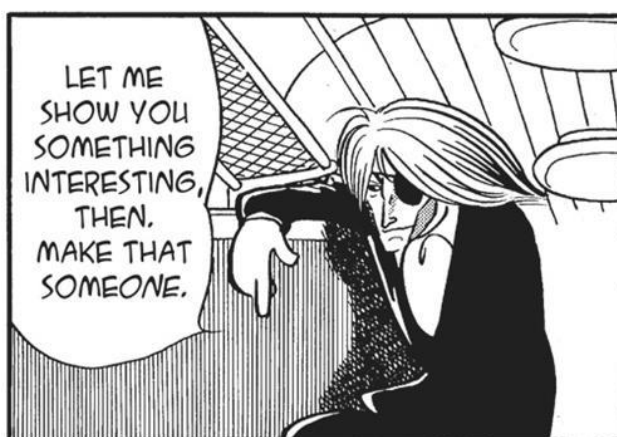
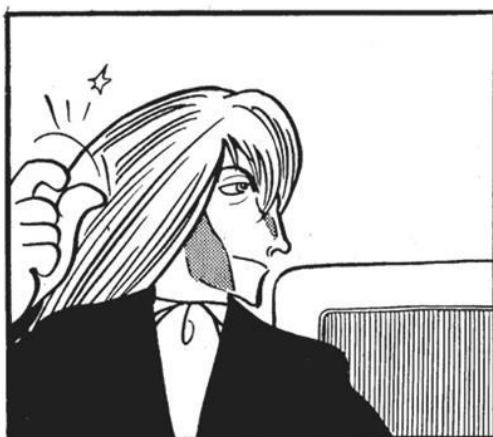


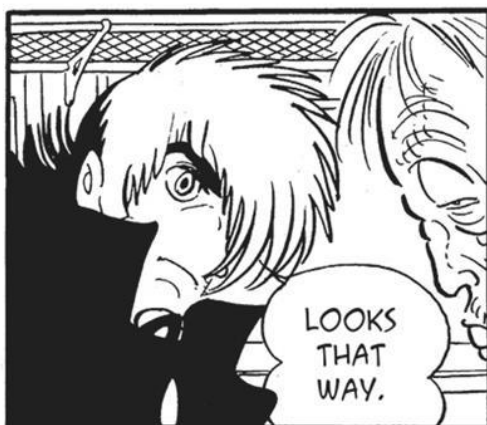












LOOKS
THAT
WAY.



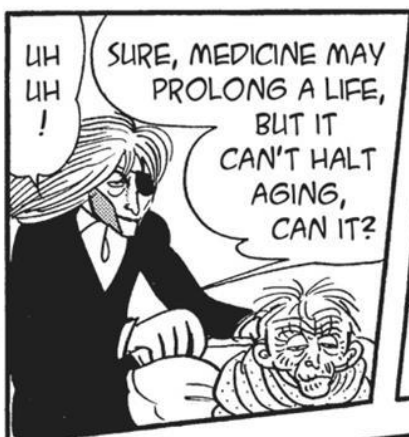
HEART, STOMACH, LIVER,
KIDNEY, LUNG, SPINE,
LIMB. NOT ONE PART
THAT HASN'T
BEEN CUT
INTO.



THE WITHERED
HUSK CAN'T
SEE, SPEAK,
OR SUPPORT
HIS BODY.

FOR
WHAT
?

AND HE'S
SURVIVED
UNTIL THIS
DAY
WILLY-
NILLY.



UH
UH
!

SURE, MEDICINE MAY
PROLONG A LIFE,
BUT IT
CAN'T HALT
AGING,
CAN IT?



NOW HE'S
BEGGING
ME TO
PUT AN
END TO
IT.

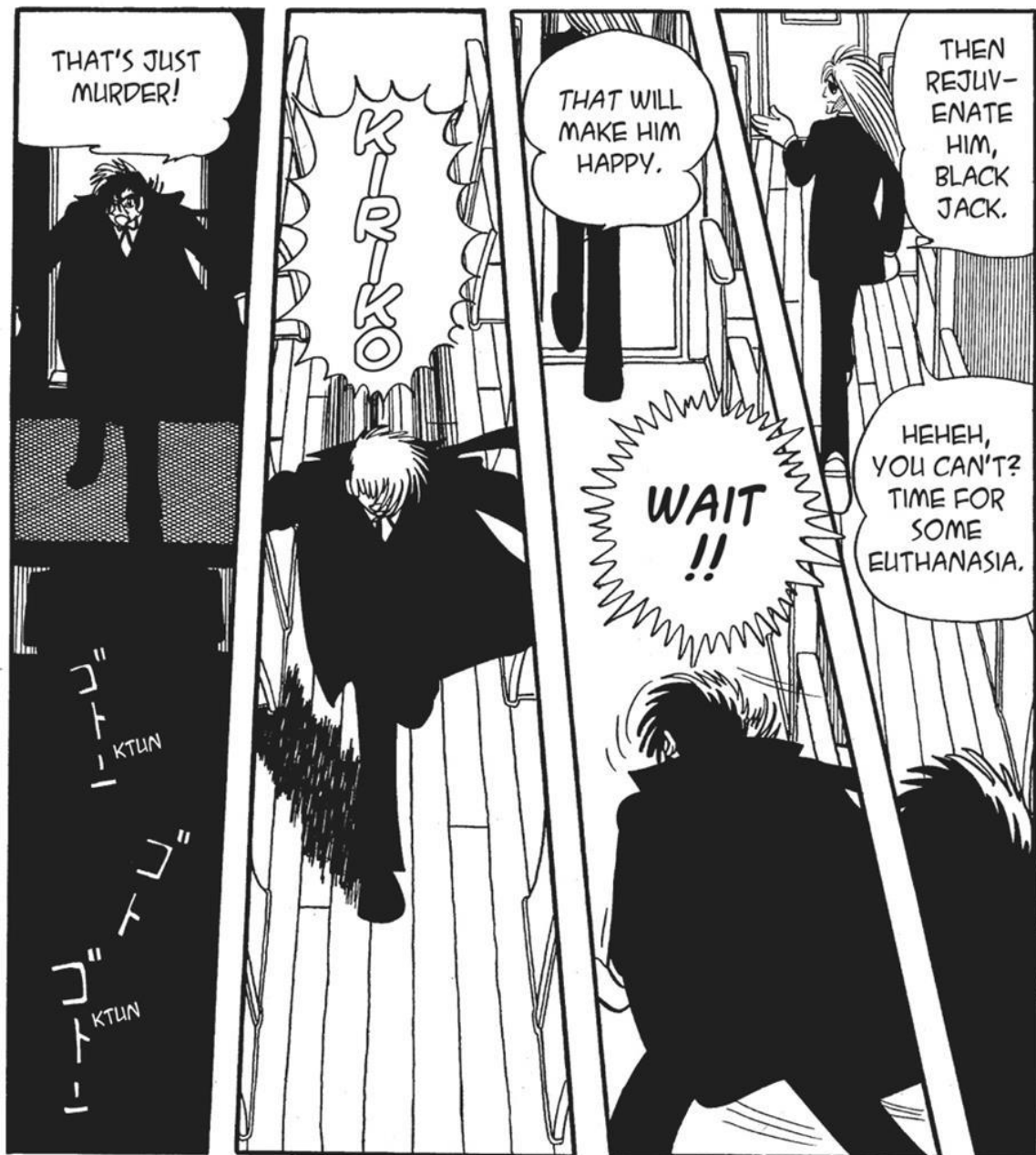
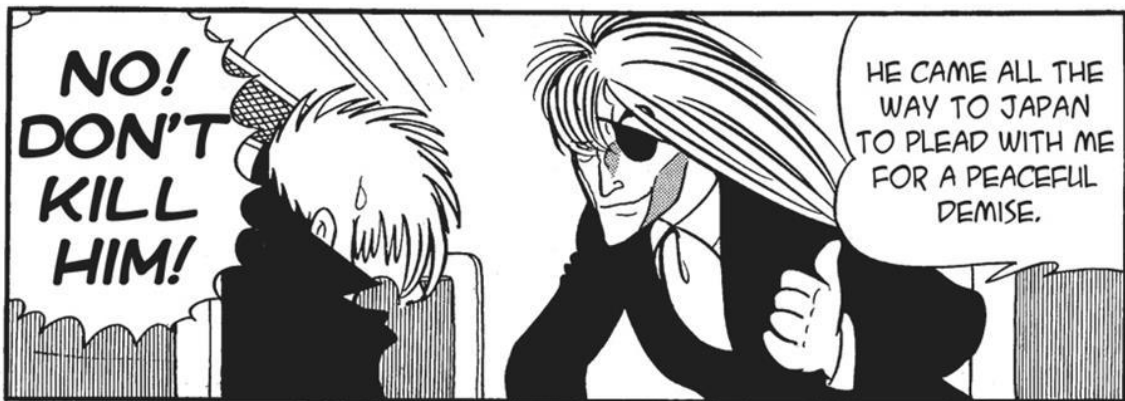


UHH... NGH...

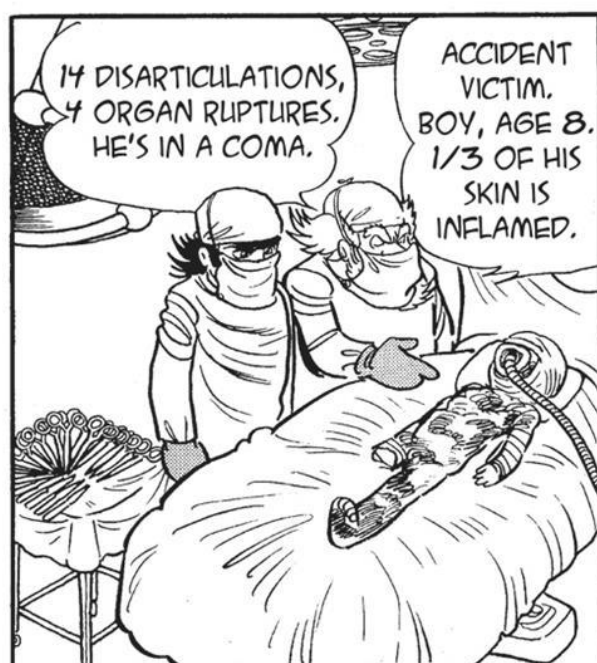


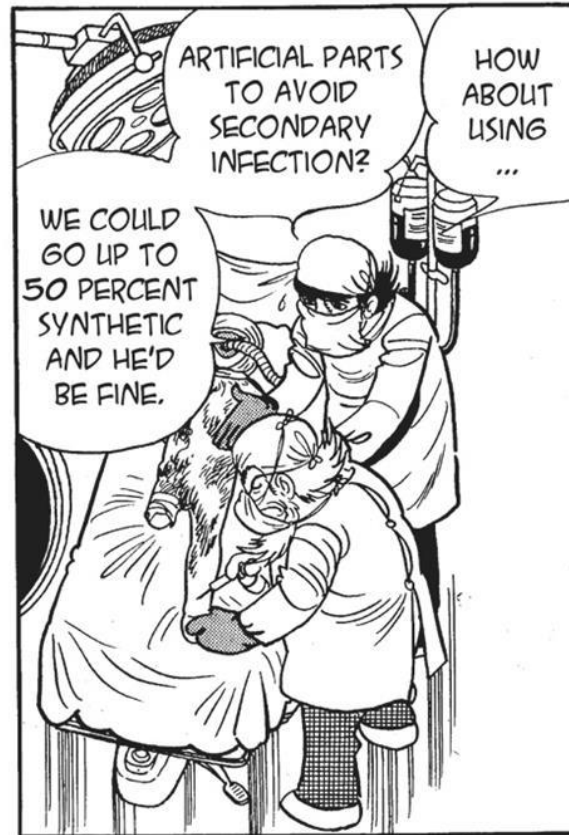
THE PAIN OF IT
GIVES RISE TO
A HANKERING
FOR DEATH.

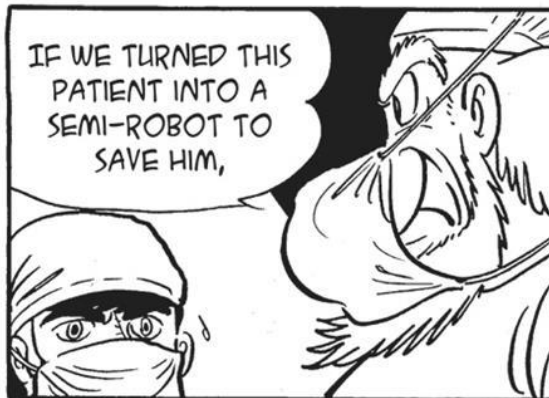
OH HH...
DAA...DAA...
BAHH...









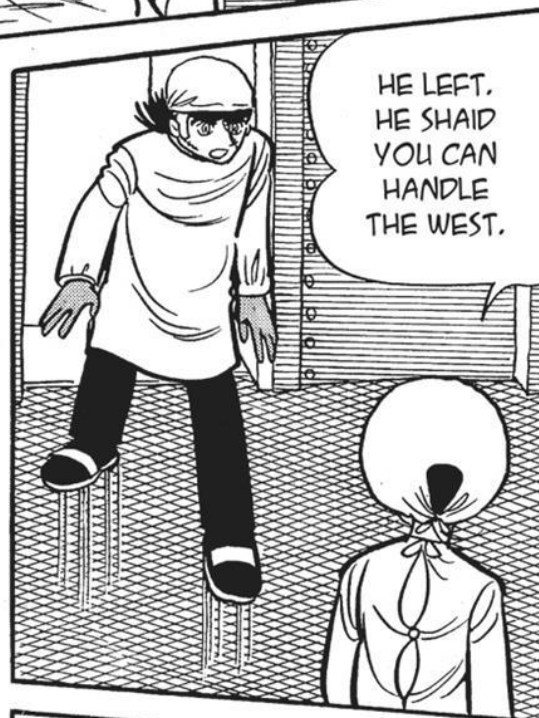


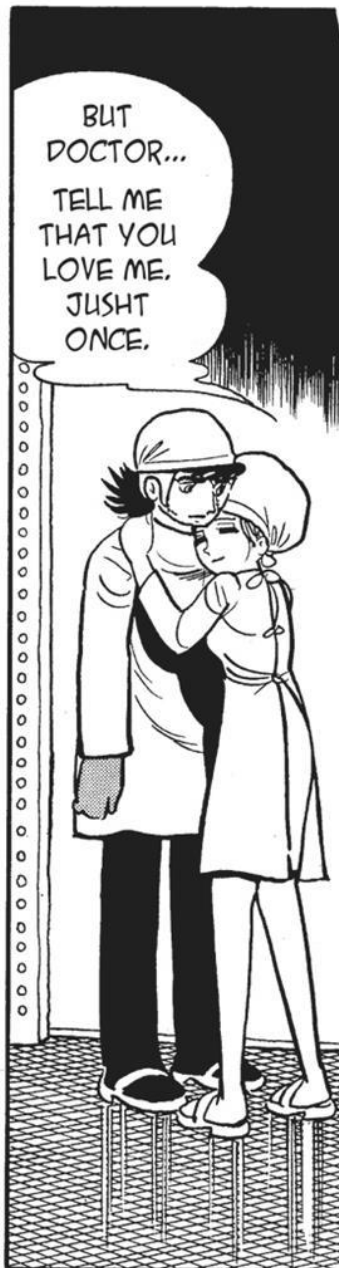


DOCTOR HONMA?

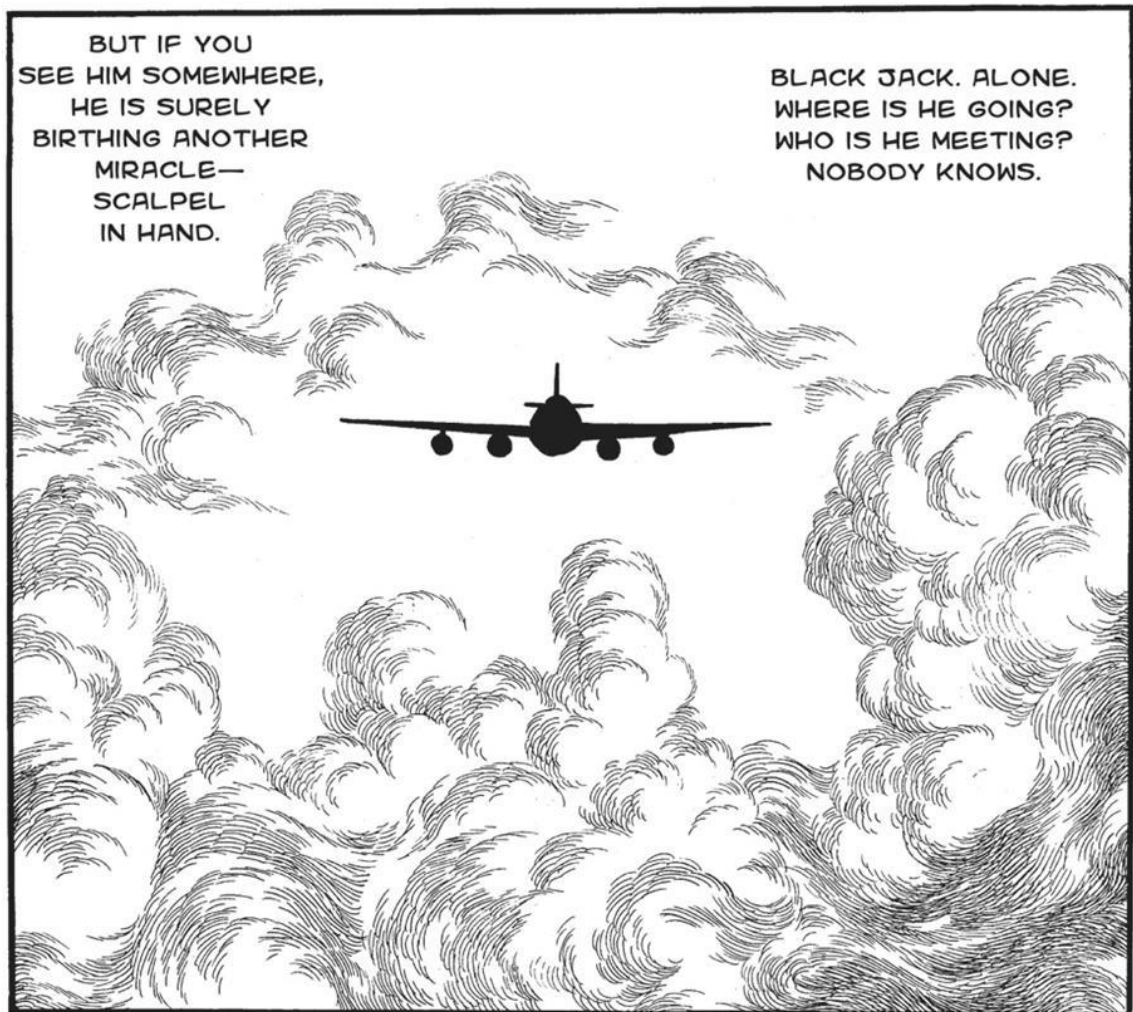
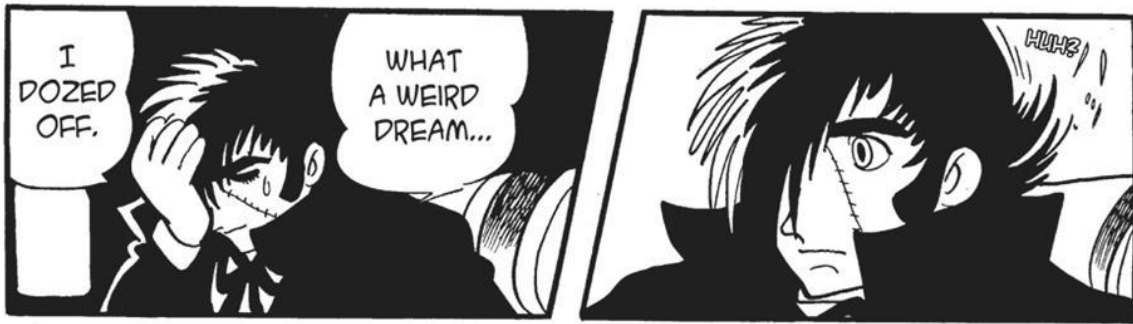


WHAT ?!









A NOTE ON THIS SERIES

*B*LACK JACK WAS SERIALIZED in Akita Shoten's *Champion* from 1973 to 1978 on a weekly basis. "The SL Called Life," the last story in this volume, appeared in the Sept. 18, 1978 issue to conclude the run. But the goodness called BJ didn't end there.

Due to popular demand, additional stories were published irregularly for five more years—and we should be grateful, since these include indispensable entries such as "Yet False the Days" in the fifth volume and "Revenge Is My Life" and "Flesh and Blood" in the tenth. "A Question of Priorities," the last episode from 1983, can be found in the ninth volume; though it does not offer the sense of finality of "SL," you may recall it as a memorable tale fully fit for such a valedictory role.

Black Jack has been published in book form multiple times, beginning with Akita Shoten's 1974 edition. This translated collection follows, volume for volume, the hardcover edition that Akita launched in 1987 and whose pocket paperback (*bunko*) reissue remains the standard *Black Jack* found in most Japanese bookstores.

The 1987 edition was initially conceived as a best-of selection picked by Tezuka himself rather than as a complete collection. Its explosive success, however, dictated otherwise. New installments continued to come out roughly every other month up to the eleventh volume, which appeared in the summer of 1988. The fact that it ended with the "SL" episode and wasn't promptly followed up did not mean, however, that the hardcover edition had concluded its run.

Volume twelve, published later that year, became the last installment to appear before Tezuka's passing the next February. While the pace of release slowed significantly after that, the erstwhile best-of edition finally became a complete edition (save for a handful of "sealed" episodes that no collection has ever included due to "objectionable" content) when the seventeenth and last volume saw the light of day in 2004.

The same year, Akita began releasing a new edition of *Black Jack* that collects the episodes in the order they originally appeared—the first ever to do so. In other words, the publisher waited fully thirty years before adopting the "purist" or archival approach to the series; the Kodansha editions have not followed the order of serialization, either. This is because *Black Jack* began as a "horror manga" supposed to last just a few episodes, only becoming a series after it proved a major hit. Presented in the original order, the crucial first volume would not convey a sufficient sense of "human drama," as the series was rebranded later in its run.

Most international editions, including this one, likewise collect the episodes in an optimal rather than chronological order. We hope you enjoy the remaining installments as well.

—Editor

// A PEERLESS MEDICAL DRAMA //

"BLACK JACK is the most memorable anti-hero in comics memory. Readers will loathe his greed even as they're awed by his weird yet consistent ethical system. Implicit in Black Jack's surgical accomplishments is a critique of socialized medicine." -LAS VEGAS CITYLIFE

COVER DESIGN BY PETER MENDELSUND
VERTICAL, INC., PUBLISHER

そして
そう

爆発の
して
終わりに